THE TIMES

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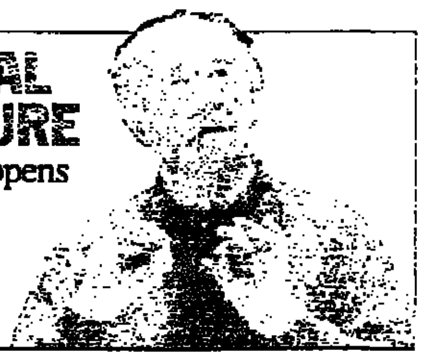

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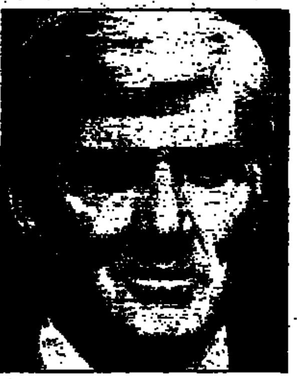
Only half of peers register interests

Lords to face Nolan review of standards

By Andrew Pierce, Political Correspondent

LORD NOLAN is expected to launch the first investigation into standards in the House of Lords after hundreds of peers failed to register their financial interests.

Barely half of the 600 regular attenders have listed any consultancies or directorships in the latest register. Those who declined to do so included Lord Parkinson, the Conservative Party Chairman who was in the forefront of the Opposition's campaign against the Trade Minister Lord Simon of Highbury over his failure to declare a £2 million BP shareholding.



Parkinson: no listing of ten directorships

Lord Parkinson — whose ten directorships including the chairmanship of Planet Online, an Internet company run by Paul Sykes, the Yorkshire businessman who gave financial support to Tory election candidates opposing a single European currency — is one of the most prominent peers to make no declaration. Others include Lady Thatcher and Lord St John of Fawsley, the former Commons leader who is chairman of the Fine Arts Commission.

While MPs face suspension if they breach tough regulations designed to ensure public transparency, the peers' register is largely voluntary. Registration is required for peers who receive payments for lobbying or providing parliamentary services and for "matters which lords may consider affect the public perception of the way in which they discharge their Parliamentary duties".

Leading Labour MPs are now pressing ministers to bring the rules for the Lords into line with the Commons. One said that the Lords was the weak link in the new regulatory system established by Lord Nolan: "We cannot allow the House of Lords to bring Parliament into disrepute at a time when the House of Commons is finally cleaning up its act."

And it emerged yesterday that Lord Nolan's committee will almost certainly review the Lords when it reconvenes in October — especially as the Government is recruiting more and more peers from boardrooms.

Lord Shore of Stepney, the former Labour minister who is a member of the committee, is among those pressing for the remit to be widened. He said: "The case for requiring all legislators, whether they are MPs or peers, to declare their financial interests is overwhelming.

"It must apply to all members of the Houses of Parliament. It has to apply to both Houses. I am sure the committee will be making that point. It is in the best interests of the House of Lords to have its financial regulatory framework examined and put on the same level as MPs.

"At the time we conducted our investigation, in the aftermath of the allegations over MPs taking cash for questions, it was not our priority. The Commons will still be our priority. But there is a strong argument for us looking at all the procedures of the House of Lords."

The peers' register was set up in February 1996 with around 300 making declarations. But 202 indicated that they were not prepared to make an entry.

Lord Parkinson's decision not to declare his directorships will particularly embarrass the Conservatives only days after they waged a campaign that forced Lord Simon to relinquish his BP shares — especially as they are planning a new assault on the Trade Minister's £14,000 Grand Metropolitan shareholding.

Lord Parkinson was one of Lord Simon's sternest critics after he failed to make a declaration in the Lords register, saying: "If you had a Conservative minister in this position, I shudder to think what the Labour Party would have been saying."

Yesterday a spokesman for the Tory chairman, who is on holiday, said of his own omission: "While he was in government he was always scruplous about declaring any interests. But now he is in opposition, and a member of the Upper House, so the rules are different."

Lord Parkinson's directorships include Amertrans, Hertfordshire Business Centre, Integrated Technology (Europe), Jarvis Harpenden Holdings, Midland Expressway, Mobile Phone Supercover, Odyssey Corporation, and Resolution Security.

Peers who have declared their outside interests include Lord Tebbit, another former Tory Party chairman; Lord Prior; Lord Archer of Weston-Super-Mare; the former Liberal Democrat leader Lord Steel; and the former Foreign Secretaries Lord Howe of Aberavon and Lord Hurd.

Prescott orders visa inquiry

John Prescott has ordered an investigation into why five young African priests have been refused visas to visit Britain.

The Deputy Prime Minister telephoned BBC Radio 4 before 7am after hearing a report on the Foreign Office decision to refuse visas to the clergy, who are studying in Belgium ......Page 2

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Thunder to clear the air – briefly

By Kathryn Knight

THUNDERSTORMS are expected to bring relief from the heat and humidity in the South and West of England today and tomorrow, but sweltering conditions are forecast to return by the end of the week.

Yesterday was the fifth consecutive day on which temperatures reached the upper 80s fahrenheit. Malvern in Hereford and Worcester was hottest yesterday at 31.9C (89.4F).

On the East Anglian coast, the high temperatures and warm seas have led to an invasion of orange compass *jellyfish*, which can give a painful sting. Holidaymakers along a 100-mile stretch have been given a warning to take care after 30 swimmers at Gorleston, near Great Yarmouth, were treated for stings in the last week.

The jellyfish, which are quite common in British waters, can still deliver a sting even when washed ashore.

In France, three people have died in violent storms which swept the country on Sunday evening and yesterday morning, causing extensive damage and forcing drenched holidaymakers to evacuate over 20 camping sites threatened by flooding.

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JACQUES BRINON / AP

Ronald Haughton, from Oxfordshire, is wheeled away to hospital from the *Parisis*

Britons hurt as boat rams bridge in Paris

From Susan Bell in Paris

TWENTY-SEVEN people, including nine Britons, were injured, one seriously, when a river cruiser on the Seine rammed into the Pont Royale in Paris yesterday.

About 70 tourists were aboard the double-decker *bateau mouche*, the *Parisis*, when she struck an arch of the bridge not far from the Louvre at about 11.20 am. The accident was caused by an electronic navigating error that drove the boat into the bridge before the captain could correct its course, said Eric Levavasseur, director of Vedettes du Pont Neuf, which owns the *Parisis*.

Most of those injured appeared to have suffered bruises and cuts and were not seriously hurt. Most were released after treatment.

Audrey Haughton, from Banbury, Oxfordshire, whose husband Ronald cracked his ribs and was taken by stretcher from the boat, said she briefly lost consciousness after striking her head on a railing. "I was facing the other way and then nothing, black. I just fell, knocked out. My husband was talking and then he collapsed." The couple had gone to France to attend a wedding at the weekend. They had only one day in Paris and the boat ride was "just something we wanted to do", Mrs Haughton explained, adding: "I wish we hadn't bothered, now." Mr Haughton is expected to leave hospital today.

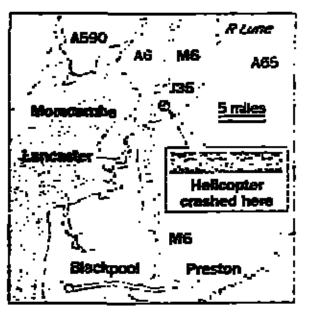
The *Parisis* was travelling at just over 4mph when it hit the bridge, but Bernard Schmitt, a Frenchman on board, said that the impact was enough to throw passengers over their seats.

Over 4.5 million passengers take a cruise along the Seine by *bateaux-mouches* every year. The boats are named after the ship-building area of Lyon where the first metal-riveted hulls were constructed. Les Vedettes du Pont Neuf is one of four companies operating its boats on the Seine. Since 1995, three other *bateaux-mouches* have collided with bridges in Paris.

Two die in helicopter crash

By Paul Wilkinson

TWO men died when their helicopter crashed in flames beside the M6 last night. Parts of a rotorblade was scattered across the motorway at Nether Kellet, near Lancaster, but no vehicles were hit by the flying debris.



First reports said the Bell Jet Ranger, chartered from a company in Mexborough, South Yorkshire, was on fire as it fell upside down in a field beside the M6. It came down near the Junction 35 exit to Carnforth shortly after 4.30pm.

Sarah Mason, who saw the crash, said: "I saw the helicopter in the air. Suddenly it nosedived. The blades came off. There was no loud explosion, more a muffled thud. The blades fell to the ground, some on the motorway itself. People were so lucky they were not hit as they drove along.

"The engine had definitely stopped as it was falling to the ground. Then it burst into flames. There were black bits flying everywhere."

Lancashire police said: "Debris from the helicopter spread all over the place. One of the fatalities was thrown on impact and at least one other person has died."

They said that the helicopter was commissioned to carry out aerial surveys of gas pipelines.

6,000 names to go on sex offenders' list next month

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

SIX thousand names will be put on the national sex offenders' register immediately it comes into effect at the beginning of next month, the Home Office said yesterday.

The names will include those of offenders convicted of sex crimes who are in jail or under probation supervision. The Home Office estimated that another 3,500 names a year would be added to the register, which will be held on the police national computer.

Because the Sex Offenders Act setting up the register does not operate retrospectively, the overwhelming majority of the 110,000 convicted paedophiles in England and Wales will escape being put on the list. Their names will be added only if they are convicted of another sex offence.

Under guidelines issued yesterday, the police will be expected to warn local communities when a convicted sex offender moves into the neighbourhood only in exceptional circumstances. The guidance says that any decision to name an offender must be "justified on the basis of the likelihood of the harm which non-disclosure might otherwise cause". It said that disclosure of personal information about individual offenders should be "exceptions to a general policy of confidentiality".

Alun Michael, Minister of State at the Home Office, told a press conference in London that the guidelines were an important step in protecting the public, particularly children, from sex offenders. But, he added, the guidance was not a magic wand to the problem of dealing with sex offenders in the community.

Mr Michael said he hoped that the guidelines would end media campaigns that have identified alleged paedophiles. "There should not be a general broadcasting of names and addresses unless the risk assessment shows that it is needed," he said.

Under the guidelines, if an offender is living near a school, a day nursery or a playgroup, police will be able to tell the local education authority, the head teacher or the playgroup leader.

Police could also step in if an offender was helping with running a youth group by informing the church authorities or governing body.

The announcement was welcomed by the Association of Chief Police Officers. It said that decisions must be taken case by case.

Under the Sex Offenders Act, which comes into force on September 1, offenders convicted or cautioned for a range of sex offences will have to tell the police where they live and when they move. If they fail to register, they face a six-month jail sentence and or a £5,000 fine. The offences covered by the Act include rape, sexual intercourse with a girl under the age of 13, incest by a man, buggery, indecent assault between men, indecent assault on a man and assault with intent to commit buggery.

The National Association of Probation Officers said that there were serious limitations to the register. Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary, said "Many [paedophiles] have changed their identities on several occasions, yet the onus would be on the offender to register any change of circumstances with the police. Given the devious nature of the offending, in many instances this will not happen."

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Executive travel blighted by mobile fixation

By Alan Hamilton

A COMBINATION of insecurity and self-importance is driving more and more executives to submit to electronic tagging when they take their annual holiday. In short, they refuse to switch off their mobile phones.

The result is additional stress for the user, who is either rung by their employers with footling problems, or who rings them to ensure that they are still a vital cog in the works. Other, more sensible, holidaymakers suffer the fallout of electronic warbling disturbing the peace of the Spanish beach, the Tuscan olive grove, or the French *gite rurale*.

Experts in stress regard it as bad news for all concerned. Professor Cary Cooper, a psychologist at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, yesterday urged people to leave their phones at home.

"The whole point of having a holiday is to get away," he said. "Being contacted on a mobile phone can be *doubly stressful if you are unable to* solve the problem. It is not just a momentary disturbance; you go on worrying and the stress builds up."

Employees weighed down by insecurity were increasingly reluctant to lose contact with their offices, while others actually wanted to be contacted, to make them feel important.

But there are those, especially owners of small businesses, who feel that without constant contact with mission control, they would feel unable to go on holiday at all. "Everyone needs to recharge their batteries, but a lot of people who run their own businesses don't want to delegate," David Hands, of the Federation of Small Businesses, said.

Cellnet, *the major mobile phone* service provider part-owned by BT, confirmed yesterday that more and more Britons were taking their phones abroad. Calls made on the GSM network, which allows a mobile phone to be used outside its home country, had risen by 151 per cent in the past two years, with particular increases in summer traffic between Britain, Spain and Portugal.

Travel agents might like to consider promoting those parts of the world — becoming fewer by the day — where mobile phones will not work.

Surprisingly, large swaths of the United States are still blackspots for European mobile phones, unless the owner has specialist equipment. Large parts of eastern Turkey towards the Iranian border remain happily out of touch, but are somewhat undesirable for family holidays.

The Amazon jungle and much of Africa are still out of range, as is the Greenland icecap and most of mainland China. But there is no need to go quite so far; parts of rural Wales and many a remote Scottish glen remain out of electronic contact.

Prescott announces visa review on radio phone-in

The Deputy Prime Minister shows who is running the shop in Tony Blair's absence, report

Andrew Pierce and **Ruth Gledhill**

JOHN PRESCOTT made an extraordinary public intervention in Foreign Office affairs yesterday when he ordered an investigation into why five young African priests have been refused visas to visit Britain.

In a move designed to underline the fact that he was "minding the shop" in Tony Blair's absence, the Deputy Prime Minister telephoned the BBC Radio 4 *Today* programme after hearing a report on the Foreign Office decision to refuse visas to the Roman Catholic priests who are studying for doctorates at Louven, the Catholic university in Belgium.

Shortly afterwards, he announced over the air in an interview a review of the decision after hearing that the visits had been standard practise for years to provide holiday relief for hard-pressed British priests.

Mr Prescott was in his ministerial chauffeur-driven car when he heard the 6.45am news item on the programme. Five minutes later he telephoned the BBC to express his concern. He was called back within minutes by Rod Liddle, the programme's deputy editor, to arrange an interview.

Mr Prescott's impulsive decision to pick up the telephone revived memories of Margaret Thatcher's Downing Street call to the studio in December 1988 at 6.30am to express her concern at the Armenian earthquake. As John Humprhys speculated on air that Lady Thatcher may have been told the disaster meant that Mr Gorbachev's planned trip to Britain might be delayed, he rapidly got his answer. She was on the telephone pointing out that she had not known because the Foreign Office had not told her.

Mr Prescott had a similar effect on Mr Liddle, who was duty junior producer when Lady Thatcher's call came through. The schedule was duly rearranged and 40 minutes later Mr Prescott, who has been irked by reports that Peter Mandelson, who is not a member of the Cabinet had been running the show, announced an investigation.

However, Mr Prescott mindful of the edict about interviews being cleared in advance, spoke to Downing Street before he went on air. A Downing Street spokesman denied that he had sought advice. "John Prescott knows he can co-ordinate government stories himself," he said.

Mr Prescott told the programme that he was concerned by the decision to bar the priests, who were invited by the Shrewsbury diocese as supply priests for a month. The decision not to issue visas has led to one church cancelling weekday services.

Mr Prescott, who is responsible for environment and transport issues, said: "There might be a perfectly good reason but I'm not yet satisfied that there is. I shall ask for the papers this morning to see if there is anything more that could have been done.

"I'm sure that my colleagues who deal with these matters give their full attention to them but sometimes there can be a slip between cup and lip. If this story is right, there seems to be a certain amount of injustice. Quite frankly, I can't see why that [the refusal of entry] should happen."

Canon Brendan Hoban, rural dean and priest at the Sacred Heart parish in Wallasey, the Wirral, said the decision to refuse visas had caused huge problems. "People were rushed in from everywhere to take Mass. Men who were in poor health already had extreme worries and pressures put on them. People panicked, rang round, trying to find priests to fill in for these students who were expected but never arrived." The Foreign Office said the decision to refuse visas was being urgently reviewed by the British consul, who was contacting the applicants for more information about the purpose of their visit. "If, as a result, he is satisfied that their applications now fall within the immigration rules, visas will be issued," the Foreign Office said. Fr John Bosco Ekanem, one of the priests denied entry, who had visited Britain twice before, said in a letter to a priest in Shrewsbury diocese that they were no longer allowed to deputise for priests on holiday. "This, in their view, is coming to work without work permits," he wrote.

DAVID JONES

Prescott's early morning call to the *Today* programme shows he is running the shop in Tony Blair's absence

Home-school contracts only 'a goodwill gesture'

BY DAVID CHARTER
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

HEAD teachers yesterday demanded the right to ban pupils whose parents refuse to sign a contract promising to follow school rules on discipline and homework.

Their call came after an unexpected decision by ministers to repeal legislation that allows schools to refuse admission if parents ignore the contracts. The Government's move means that while schools will be required to produce contracts for every pupil, heads will be powerless if a parent refuses to sign one.

Under the proposals, set out in a White Paper last month, every school governing body will discuss the details of home-school contracts with parents. The document will set out policy on pupil behaviour and punctuality, and the standards the school aims to achieve.

Ministers said, however, it should not be used as part of the school admission process, as stated in the previous Government's Education Act 1997. Instead, parents are to be given a "reasonable time" to sign the contract, with no sanctions if they do not.

A spokeswoman at the Department for Education and Employment described the contracts as "a non-enforceable goodwill gesture". David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: "This makes it very difficult for heads when they are faced with parents who are unwilling to sign a contract. If the Government wants to make home-school contracts standard practice, and we believe they should be, then schools should have the right to refuse admission to parents who are refusing to sign."

Baroness Blackstone, Education Minister, said: "For too long, many parents and teachers have not known what the relationship between home and school should be and what each has a right to expect. Home-school contracts will set clear expectations for parents, schools and pupils."

'Riotous' Italian passengers are left at airport by pilot

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

AN ENTIRE planeload of passengers bound for Sicily — said by the airline to include 150 excitable and angry Italians — were left at Gatwick yesterday after the captain refused to accept their "riotous" behaviour.

The British captain of the Sabre Airways Boeing 727 refused to carry any of the 187 passengers on board, many of whom were shouting and swearing about a long delay and a change in their route.

The problems began as the plane was preparing to leave the departure gate when a warning light indicated a failure of a hydraulic pump. This led to an enforced change to their final destination which proved too much for some passengers.

Everyone — including 35 apparently innocent Britons — was ordered off the jet and police arrested one 37-year-old Italian. The jet then took off for Sicily without any passengers.

The jet had been chartered by Italian tour operator LAI Travel, which specialises in obtaining cheap seats for Italian waiters, restaurant owners and other workers living in Britain to return to their homes during the summer. Most of the Italians had planned to return to Palermo, where the aircraft was scheduled to land before heading on to Catania. But the delay caused by fitting a new pump meant the flight crew would exceed their maximum working hours unless the flight was terminated at Palermo.

Anyone wanting to go on to Catania would have to spend a further two hours on a 75-mile coach journey.

Sabre said passengers angry at not being taken on to Catania were standing in their seats screaming abuse at the crew while those who simply wanted either to go Palermo were shouting back and telling them to sit down.

The Italians finally left at midnight last night, nearly 41 hours late. The man who was arrested was released with a caution.

Greenpeace duo in oil rig protest

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

TWO Greenpeace campaigners were spending their second night chained to the BP oil platform *Stena Dee* more than 50 miles off Orkney last night in a protest at oil exploration in the Atlantic. BP said the "dangerous" protest had prevented the mobile drilling platform from continuing its journey from Norway to the Foinaven oil field.

The platform, which has 81 workers on board, was originally stopped on Saturday when seven Greenpeace activists boarded it. The two remaining protesters, both German, are perched about 40 ft above the sea on a leg of the platform, and have food to last four or five days.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Fears of last-minute university scramble

Worries about a squeeze on the last "free" university places were intensified yesterday when admissions officials said 20,000 fewer places would be available in clearing than last year (David Charter writes).

A far higher proportion of the 295,000 courses have been filled compared to this time last year, the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service said. By yesterday, 95,155 students had been confirmed on courses for this October, compared to 77,683 at this stage last year. With forecasts of a late rush from up to 90,000 students who would otherwise take a "gap year", the filling of vacancies after Thursday's A-level results is set to be the most hectic on record.

The first signs of that rush were shown by a trebling of last-minute applications. More than 4,000 people have joined the hunt for places in recent days, compared to 1,300 in the same period last year.

Education, page 37

Trident protesters dig in

Anti-nuclear protesters at Britain's oldest peace camp are preparing for imminent eviction by chaining themselves to concrete lock-ins in case of a raid by Argyll and Bute Council. The campaigners at the 15-year-old Faslane Peace Camp in Helensburgh, opposite the Faslane Naval Base which houses Trident submarines, are determined to oppose the council which has ordered them to quit.

Mother found murdered

Police were last night hunting the killer of a woman with a mental age of ten whose body was found dumped in a stream under an old bed. Patricia Grainger, 25, who had a five-year-old son, had been stabbed, strangled and sexually assaulted. She lived at home with her parents on the Parson's Cross council estate in Sheffield, close to where her fully clothed body was discovered by two boys out playing.

Doncaster suspension

The head of Doncaster council's planning department has become the latest person to be suspended as part of an inquiry. No allegations of fraud or corruption have been made against David Ellis, but he has been accused of weakness in the face of pressures from councillors and of asking junior officials to temper their concerns about the number of green-belt sites being earmarked for housing.

Woman raped in Cyprus

A 26-year-old British woman was recovering in a Turkish Cypriot hospital last night after being raped and left on a street in the coastal resort of Kyrenia. Police said a taxi driver had been arrested. The woman, understood to be from Northern Ireland and to work in an hotel, was found semi-conscious on Sunday morning. Doctors at the Akcicek Hospital confirmed she had been raped.

Camelot sues bookies

Camelot, the National Lottery operator, launched a legal challenge yesterday against three leading bookmakers in an attempt to stop them taking part in a rival numbers game. Camelot claim that the 49s scheme, promoted by William Hill, Coral and Ladbrokes is illegal as it contravenes the 1993 National Lotteries Act which states that there must be only one National Lottery in Britain.

Footballer convicted

Carlton Palmer, 31, the former England soccer player, was convicted yesterday for the second time in a week for events arising from a night out clubbing with his Leeds United team-mates. He was found guilty of disorderly conduct and fined £450 and ordered to pay £190 costs. Last Tuesday he was convicted by city magistrates of indecently assaulting an 18-year-old girl in a bar.

Man survives 80ft fall

A man who fell 80ft down a cliff, and lay badly injured on a ledge in searing heat for almost two days, was rescued by holidaymakers who at first thought his shouts for help were the cries of seagulls. Robert Campbell, 28, from Norwich, told rescuers that he fell off the cliff at Cromer, Norfolk, on Thursday evening. He suffered multiple fractures and was yesterday recovering in hospital.

Success for Russia link

Britain's new Moscow-based Customs investigator has scored his first success after a joint operation led to the discovery of 440lb of cocaine and the arrest of seven members of a Russian mafia gang. The senior investigator, whose identity is being kept secret for security reasons, began work this summer. Part of his role is to act as the link between British and Russian operations.

Climber snubs chapatis

Alan Hinkes, the mountaineer obliged to postpone his attempt to become the first Briton to climb the world's 14 highest peaks when he sneezed on the flour coating a chapati and injured his back, arrived back in Britain yesterday and vowed: "I'll never eat another chapati in my life." The 43-year-old climber from Northallerton, North Yorkshire, then tucked into a meal of fish and chips.

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It's no joke as Essex decides to get serious

Council says the gags must stop so England's most reviled county can attract investors, reports **Michael Horsnell**

THE unfortunate image of Essex Man and his high-heeled moll as a pair of feckless Philistines is undermining investment opportunities in the county.

Overseas investors are put off business development in the land of the three seaxes when they hear jokes from competing locations about Essex girls having more shoes than books, according to a county council report.

Immediate action is to be taken by the council after concern in the business community that Essex should defend itself against its reputation as the county that fell off the back of a lorry.

Terry Conder, head of the enterprise and international relations department, said: "Companies do not willingly move their businesses into an area that is perceived to be offering poor quality, and if their perception of Essex is a negative one the county is likely to be passed over as a potential relocation site.

"Since it is also true that a poor image can have a negative impact on self expectation and could easily lead to Essex businesses failing to realise their full potential, our image and the Essex jokes are something that we should all take more seriously."

An unhealthy image featuring "white socks, furry dice and a black market economy" damages the reputation of its workforce, he added. The county, which is big enough to maintain an office in Brussels, is to counter the adverse propaganda with an advertising campaign. Adverts will appear in the national and foreign press to promote a Essex as a county in which to "live, work and do business".

Meanwhile posters will go up at Stansted airport with photographs of a picturesque country road and a hi-tech office. The skills of staff at the Ford plant at Dagenham — although now in east London, it remains the spiritual heart of Essex mythology — will be presented as a high quality workforce.

Mr Conder's report in the economic development magazine *Enterprising Essex*, illustrated by a pair of white stiletto shoes, follows a business seminar hosted by the county's chief executive Stewart Ashurst.

Local commercial interests spoke of a common perception of Essex as a poor place in which to live and work, and the need to challenge this if its image were not to have an impact on business.

Mr Conder added: "It is completely unfair. We have two excellent universities, six other colleges and growing success in high quality industrial and commercial activities. This is the image we need to present."

Essex has long been regarded by its devotees as a county of two halves: the concrete, industrial south-east exemplified by Basildon Man and the archetypal MP for Billericay, Teresa Gorman; and the rest, picturesque countryside.

Dick Turpin, the highwayman, did not help the county's reputation, but since his time the *county progeny* have included A. A. Milne; Augustus John; Edith Cavell; Samuel Pepys as MP for Harwich; Elizabeth Fry, the prison reformer; Captain Lawrence Oates of Scott's Antarctic expe*dition, and the surgeon Joseph* Lister.

Among the county's proudest boasts are: Colchester, the oldest recorded town in Britain, Chelmsford from where Marconi made the first radio broadcast, the world's oldest wooden church (1063AD) at Greensted, and Southend, which boasts the world's longest pier.

But Terry Marsh, former IBF world light-welterweight boxing champion, from Basildon, said: "This revelation about the need for a new Essex Man image will only make people laugh at us."

A baby's toy and clothing on the pavement with the pushchair hood after the crash

Runaway car kills mother, injures baby

By Adrian Lee and Lin Jenkins

A WOMAN died and her baby son was critically injured yes*terday when they were hit by a* car that was believed to have gone out of control after the 80-year-old driver collapsed and died at the wheel.

Police said Jill Wilson, 34, was walking next to a main *road, in Fleet, Hampshire,* when she was struck by the bonnet of the car. Her four-month-old son, Anthony, was thrown out of his pushchair as it was dragged 150 yards down the road.

His two-year-old sister, Victoria, who was walking alongside the pushchair, escaped unhurt. She was discovered, in tears, calling for her mother.

Witnesses said the Triumph *Dolomite car, driven by* Winifred Fletcher, left a straight stretch of Reading Road South, hit the pushchair, then returned to the road where it hit a van.

George Evans, who lives *near by, said he heard a loud* bang and went to see what happened: "There was a youngish woman lying in the road, a van by the postbox and a car near by too. I remember seeing a pram as well."

A woman who ran from her home after hearing a screech of brakes said: "The baby who had been in a buggy was very seriously injured and the driver was also dead."

Barbara Lawson, 63, said: All I could hear was the sound of a young child screaming and screaming and I just *couldn't bear to look."*

Mrs Wilson's husband, Ian, said he could not believe what had happened: "I am rushing to be by my son's bedside. I have been told by police that he is very, very poorly. When *the accident happened I was at* work and I believe my wife and children were making their way back home from town."

The family home is a few hundred yards from the crash *site. Joan Wathens, 74,* a passenger in the car, was slightly hurt and the van driver was treated for shock.

Adrian Maasz, of Surrey Ambulance Service, said: "The mother and the pushchair had *both been carried some* distance down the road. Unfortunately, despite our efforts, the elderly lady and the mother died at the scene."

The baby was initially taken to Frimley Park Hospital, at *Camberley, Surrey, but later* transferred to a head injuries unit at King's College Hospital, London. He was said last night to have multiple injuries.

Mrs Wilson was a driving instructor who ran her own business from her home, and was off work after the birth of Anthony. A neighbour, Gareth Palmer, said: "She was a brilliant person who always had a joke, or a smile on her face."

Sarah Cook with her "husband", Musa Komeagac

Child 'bride' says marriage is over

From Andrew Finkel in Istanbul

SARAH COOK, the Essex schoolgirl who went off to marry the 18-year-old Turkish waiter she had met on holiday, announced the relationship *was over in a public quarrel* with her "husband" broadcast live on Turkish television.

Speaking by telephone from her home in Braintree, Sarah accused Musa Komeagac of failing to send money to sup*port their ten-month-old son* Mohammed and of being unfaithful to her. Komeagac, who married Sarah in Turkey according to a legally invalid religious ceremony when she was 13, protested his faithfulness. "*I love you, baby,*" he repeated, in the Istanbul television studio.

Sarah, who had converted to Islam at his family's request, refused to be mollified. "What sort of Muslim are you?" she asked him.

In Mr Komeagac's hometown of Kahramanmaras, Sarah had been adopted as "the *nation's bride" and held up as* an example for her willingness to cover her head in Islamic fashion and lead a simple life in the home of her in-laws. When she was returned to Britain in February 1996, after the *High Court made her a ward* of court, much of the Islamic press in Turkey claimed that the authorities in Britain were motivated not by concern for Sarah's welfare but by anger that the girl had rejected her *Western upbringing.*

Mr Komeagac still faces charges in Turkey of statutory rape in a series of court hearings that have dragged on since February 1996.

Body of missing girl, 13, is found

By Stewart Tendler

THE body of a missing 13-year-old girl has been found with head injuries in scrubland behind a Birmingham public house, police said yesterday. Jessica Downes, from Oldbury, went missing last Friday after leaving home to go to swimming baths.

Detective Superintendent David Unwin, who is in charge of the inquiry, said that Jessica's death was being treated as suspicious and could have been murder. He said that her body was fully clothed and there were no signs of a sexual assault. A blue Reebok rucksack she was carrying when she left home was missing.

Mr Unwin said that her body was found on Sunday night while a fight between youths at another public house opposite the Royal Oak *was taking place. Several* people were arrested and during the brawl a man in the area told officers that he had found a body.

Although he stayed to help police he left without giving *his name and yesterday police* asked him to contact them. Police are keeping an open mind about whether the discovery of the body and the disturbance are connected.

Fans flock to Graceland for candle-lit Elvis vigil

By Peter Foster, Mark Henderson and Tunku Varadarajan

THOUSANDS of Elvis fans and impersonators are making a pilgrimage to Graceland to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the singer's death this Saturday.

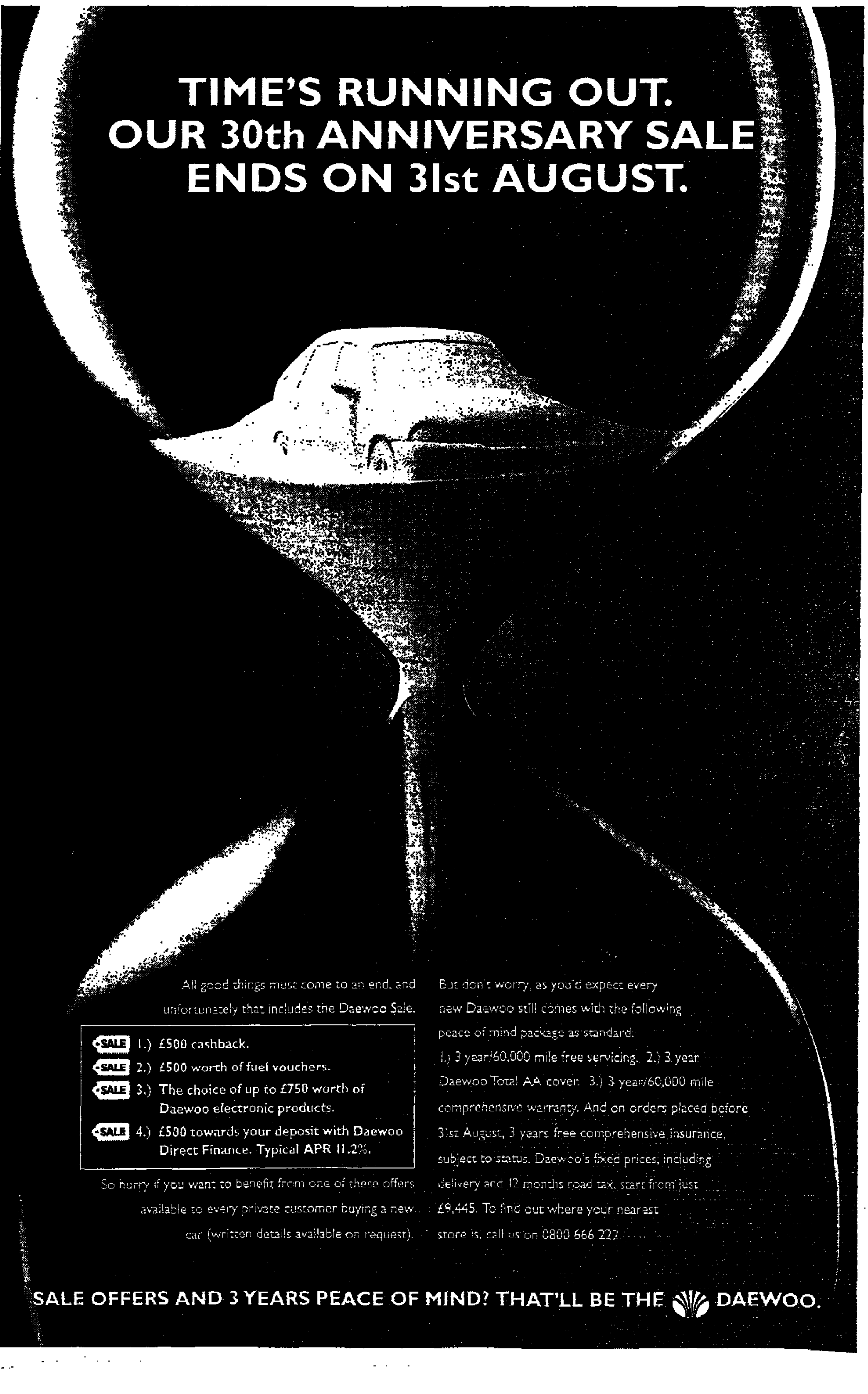
Four British couples are to marry in an Elvis-style "Hawaiian Blue" ceremony after the festivities in Memphis. They will join more than 100,000 fans at Graceland, the Presley mansion in Tennessee where "the king" is buried. He was 42 when he died. A candle-light vigil will be held outside the estate's gates on Friday night.

The Official Elvis Presley Fan Club of Great Britain has hired 20 luxury coaches and booked five hotels for the occasion. The entourage of Elvis afficionados who have paid £1,600 for the trip will then travel to Los Angeles and Hawaii. Passengers at Gatwick can expect to see scores of Elvis impersonators in the departure lounges this week as the exodus to Graceland gathers pace. Northwest Airlines, which flies direct to Memphis, has sold more than 5,000 seats on special flights. For £550, passengers can expect a lively singsong and Elvis movies.

"411, 412, 413 ...."

British Elvis fans left behind will not be lonesome on Saturday and Sunday. Fan clubs are holding Elvis parties across the country, the biggest in London at the Forum in Kentish Town and the Equinox in Leicester Square.

☐ Weeks before he died, a drugged Elvis rang President Carter at the White House and asked him to help a friend he believed was in trouble. *The New Yorker* has reported. The *magazine said Mr Carter* tried to calm Elvis's fears that he was being "shadowed" and that his friend was being framed.



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Irish pilgrims pray opportunity knocks for Dana

Audrey Magee on an unusual presidential campaign

JOHN COGILL

Hundreds of pilgrims from both sides of the border prayed at a mass held in Knock for Dana to become the next president of Ireland

Dana: won support for her Christian values

AN ANNUAL pilgrimage of prayer turned into a political rally yesterday when hundreds of Roman Catholics asked God to make Dana, a former winner of the Eurovision Song Contest, the next President of Ireland.

Pilgrims from both sides of the Irish border travelled to the Knock shrine in Co Mayo as part of a national campaign of prayer to have Dana — real name Rosemary Brown — succeed Mary Robinson. Mrs Robinson stands down on September 12 to become the UN Commissioner for Human Rights.

Many came from Belfast. As UK citizens they are not entitled to vote in the Irish election, but they see Dana as a candidate who would restore Christian values in the republic.

They came with leaflets calling on people to pray for Dana and listened to recordings of her singing the rosary as they travelled by bus. Colm Trimble, from Whiteabbey in Belfast, said Dana encapsulated all that was good about Christianity. "She is a very peaceful and calm woman and is internationally renowned for that — not just for singing. When it comes to being President of Ireland she will be A1."

Mr Trimble and other Dana supporters prayed for her success during a mass in Knock basilica celebrated by Kevin Scallon, brother-in-law of the singer. Traces of Dana can be found everywhere in Knock: tapes of her music are on sale in the trinket shops and a Golden Rose sits behind glass to commemorate the occasion when she sang for Pope John Paul during his visit to Knock in 1979.

However, organisers were reticent about the use by the political lobbyists of the shrine and basilica. One priest described their presence as "overt politics that has nothing to do with prayers and pilgrims in Knock".

But the pilgrims were undeterred, determined to push as hard as they could to lobby 20 members of the Irish Parliament, or four local authorities, to vote for Dana — the backing she needs to stand. However, in a recent telephone poll in the Republic, only 4 per cent of people backed her candidature.

Joe Brennan, an independent Galway councillor lobbying on Dana's behalf, virtually admitted defeat yesterday. He will table a motion that Galway County Council nominates Dana, but concedes he is likely to be defeated as party members vote with the whip.

The main political parties in Ireland want John Hume, the SDLP leader, to become president or will put forward their own candidates. Albert Reynolds, the former Fianna Fail leader, wrote to party members asking them to back him.

Many Irish commentators have scoffed at the idea that the singer, who now lives in the bible belt of Alabama with her husband and four children, could become the next Irish President.

Professor Anthony Clare, psychiatrist and director of St Patrick's hospital in Dublin, said her attempted nomination was a last attempt by the Irish Catholic Right to secure a strong foothold in Irish politics. "Most people are not treating her seriously. She is the Jimmy Goldsmith of the election and will probably fare as well," he said.

Britain will fund Sinn Fein in talks

By Martin Fletcher, Chief Ireland Correspondent

BRITISH taxpayers will subsidise Sinn Fein to the tune of tens of thousands of pounds as it argues for a united Ireland in full-scale peace negotiations opening next month.

The IRA's political wing is assembling a formidable team of more than 40 people for the talks, which it sees as the first real engagement between the republican movement and the British Government since Ireland's partition in 1921. A substantial portion of Sinn Fein's costs during the eight months of talks will be defrayed by the British and Irish governments, as will those of all the other participating parties.

In addition to its negotiators, the IRA's political wing is lining up legal advisers, administrators, researchers, specialists, a press and publicity unit and other support staff. "We are treating the talks process with the greatest seriousness," said Richard McAuley, the Sinn Fein spokesman. The party was considering "what we need to put in place to make maximum use and get maximum benefit from these negotiations. Our intention is to be as well prepared as we can be."

Each delegate or negotiator will receive a £100 daily allowance for a minimum of four hours' work. Sinn Fein's 17 elected delegates would pass this money straight on to the party, Mr McAuley said.

In addition, each political party can claim a research grant of up to £6,000 per quarter, a support grant of £300 for each day of actual negotiations, and travel and subsistence allowances for its elected delegates and back-up staff. An official at the Northern Ireland Office remarked: "I think everyone would agree that the benefits to Northern Ireland of a settlement agreed at the talks table will far outweigh the costs of hosting them."

Sinn Fein, whose coffers have been severely depleted by three elections in four months, is next month sending three senior officials to America, where they will raise funds to supplement this public money. After two days of political meetings in Washington, the MPs Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, and Martin McGuinness, its chief negotiator, and Caoimhghin O Caolain, a member of the Dail, will attend fundraising events in New York before they split up and visit the Irish-American communities of Chicago, Boston and San Francisco.

The total price of peace for the British taxpayer is likely to be millions of pounds; six months of preliminary talks last year, which did not involve Sinn Fein, as the IRA had not renewed its ceasefire, cost well over £1 million.

The Army relaxed another security precaution yesterday, two weeks into the latest IRA truce, sending patrols out onto the streets of West Belfast in regimental berets instead of helmets. Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, welcomed the gesture as "a sign of increasing confidence" and part of a "steady return to normality which will continue, providing the level of threat and events on the ground allow it".

Security sources say the only discernible threat to British troops at present comes from a republican splinter group called the Continuity Army Council.

Letters, page 17

With security relaxed as a result of the IRA ceasefire, soldiers in Belfast were yesterday in regimental berets

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Tabloids in deep water: a three-step guide to throwing ethics overboard

In the wake of fake photographs of the Princess of Wales, **Carol Midgley** on calls for a tighter code of conduct

THE Press Complaints Commission was urged to review its code of practice yesterday after a tabloid newspaper fooled millions of readers with a *fake photograph of Diana*, Princess of Wales, on holiday with Dodi Fayed.

The front-page photograph, trumpeted in *The Mirror* as "Exclusive: the picture they all wanted", was electronically enhanced to make it look as if the couple were about to kiss.

Mirror sources insisted the offending image had been changed by only one millimetre, but in the newspaper's original picture, Mr Fayed's head faced away from the Princess. In the pictures on the right, *The Times* demonstrates how easy image manipulation has become with the use of computers.

Gerald Kaufman, chairman of the House of Commons Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee, said the PCC code of practice should be updated to give editors specific guidance about the use of photographs. He said: "This is an issue which needs to be addressed. It is the duty of a newspaper to let its readers know when a photograph has been doctored.

"The code of practice was compiled in the days when the alteration or amendment of photographs was rare. Now it is possible to change a photo in any way you like. It would be very wise if the PCC considered amending its code."

Stuart Higgins, Editor of *The Sun*, described *The Mirror's* actions as a "cynical deception" and called for the PCC code to be rewritten immediately. Mr Higgins added: "The code should be amended so that any newspaper that doctors a picture should make it clear that they have done so. The old adage we have lived and died by is that the camera never lies. But it seems newspapers do."

Piers Morgan, Editor of *The Mirror,* used an original, undoctored version of a photograph of the couple on Thursday last week. Two days later, after losing out in a £250,000 bidding war to his Sunday stablemate, he apparently decided to alter it for Saturday's edition.

Mr Morgan's decision appears to have been tacitly approved by David Montgomery, Mirror Group's chief executive, who objected to a suggested headline, "The Kiss" and told the editor to change it to "Hot Lips".

A Mirror Group spokesman criticised *The Guardian* newspaper, which devoted an entire page to the picture tampering. The spokesman added: "It is ironic that *The Guardian* should be raising an issue about photo tampering when it managed to remove an entire human being from a recent photograph of Gordon Brown outside Number 11 on Budget day."

The *Mirror* picture had been supplied by the Rex photographic agency which supplies pictures to newspapers. It was taken by a French photographer during the Princess's holiday with Mohamed Al Fayed weeks earlier. Rex confirmed the original was one of a number it sent to *The Mirror* and other papers on Wednesday last week, when news first broke of the Princess's friendship with Mr Al Fayed's son.

One expert who saw the original picture said yesterday: "If you reverse the head — flip it — which you can easily do. it is the same picture."

A spokesman for the PCC said no complaints had been made about the photographs and it could make no comment on the matter. For the commission to investigate one of the principal people involved in the picture — the Princess or Mr Fayed — would have to make a formal complaint.

On Sunday, the Government ruled out the introduction of a privacy law. Peter Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio, conceded the photographs were "intrusive and unwelcome" but added: "The problem of having an all-encompassing privacy law being introduced by Parliament is the protection it gives to those who don't merit protection.

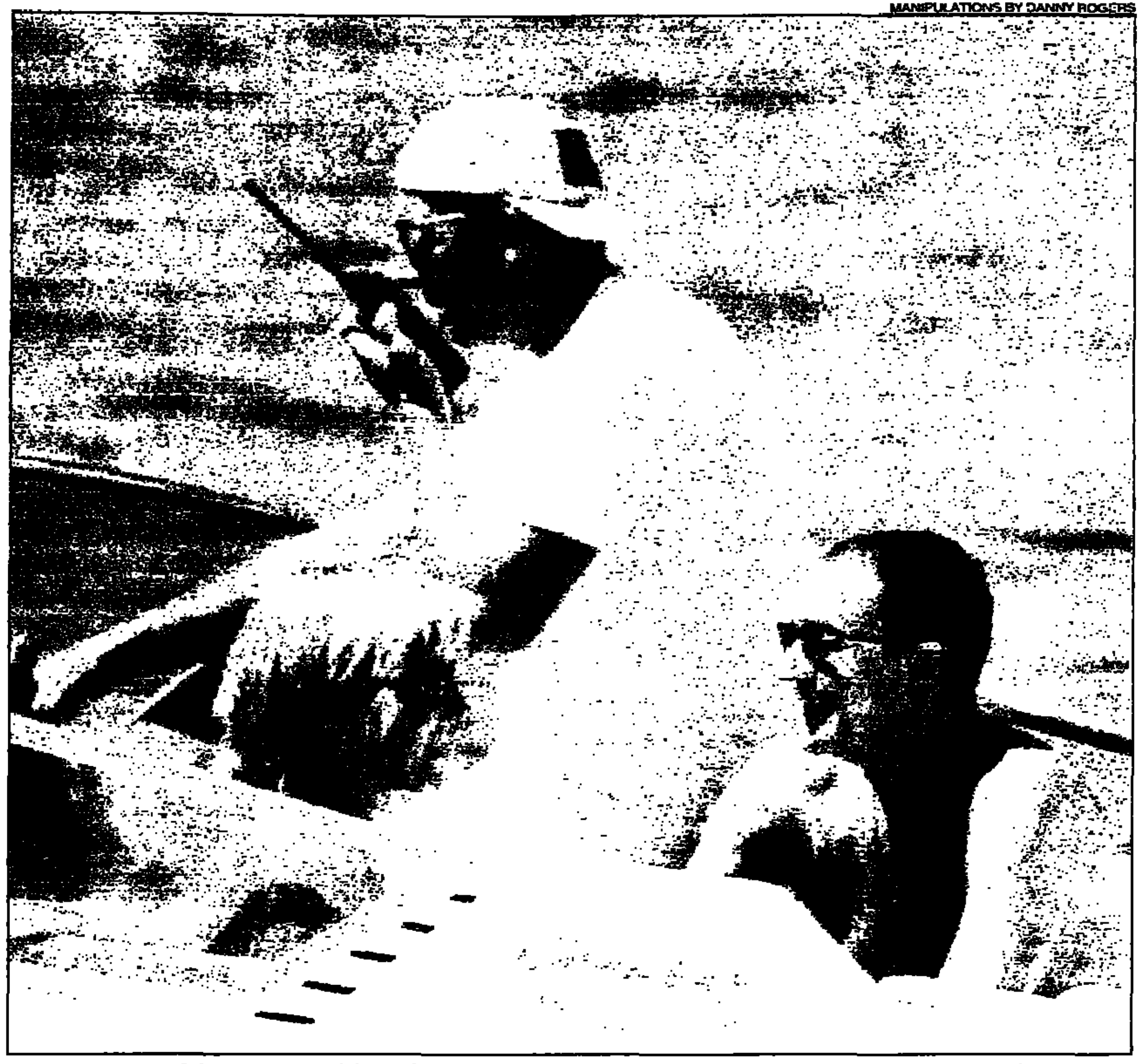
"I would hate to see the day when the British press are prevented from exposing that wrongdoing because oftentimes it is only the press who can do that job."

The scramble for exclusive rights to the holiday pictures also prompted the *News of the World* to try a similar trick. Its front page showed the Princess apparently kissing Mr Fayed. Readers were told the image had been "created" only when they turned to page 3.

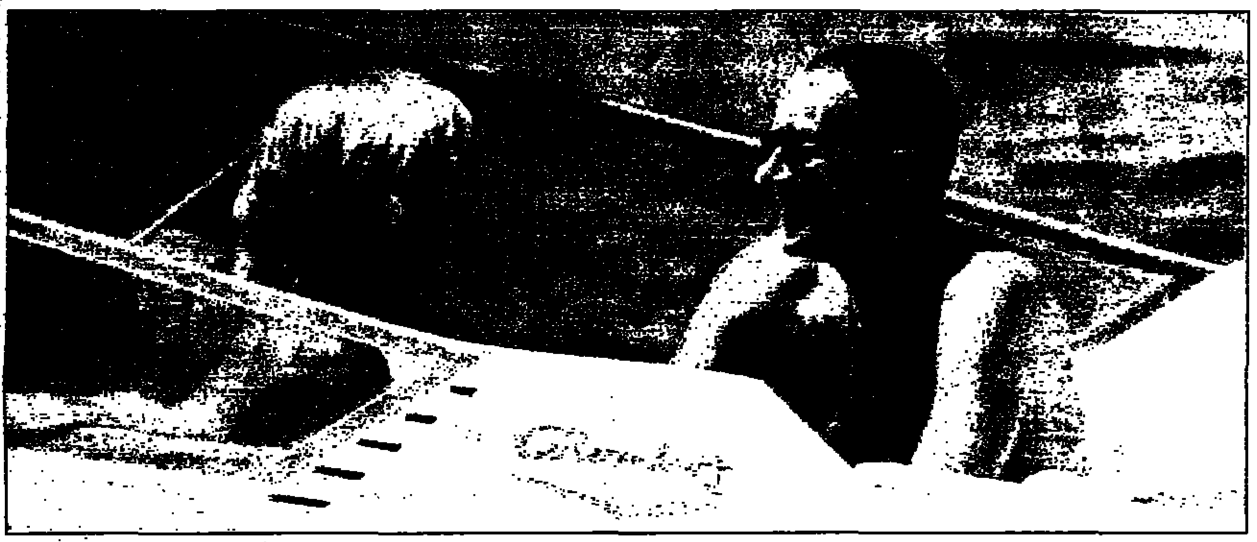
The *Sunday Mirror*, which carried the first genuine exclusive pictures of the couple kissing, claimed yesterday that it had raised its circulation by 300,000, or 13 per cent, on Sunday. The paper increased its price by 5p and printed 2.8 million copies, 20 per cent more than usual.

☐ *Additional reporting by Stephen Farrell*

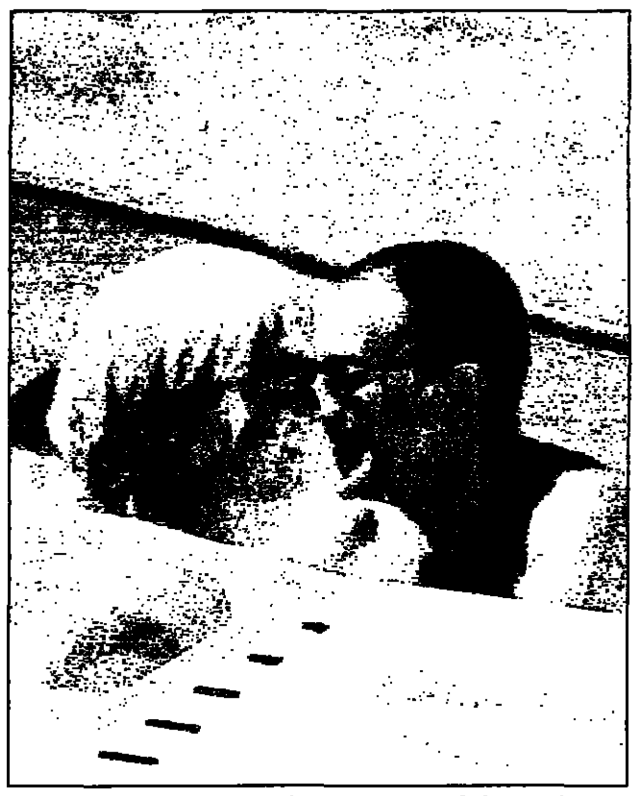
MANIPULATIONS BY DANNY ROGERS



STEP ONE: original photograph by a Big Pictures photographer of the Princess, a crew member, and Dodi Fayed



STEP TWO: *The Times* gets to work, removing the crew member from the shot and restoring the background



STEP THREE: the couple are moved as if about to kiss

Prince's son goes under cover at Balmoral

By Emma Wilkins

THE Prince of Wales and his sons left the Royal Yacht *Britannia* in the Hebrides yesterday for the start of their annual summer stay at Balmoral.

Prince Charles gave a broad smile to photographers as he strode down a gangplank on to Islay, but his elder son appeared unimpressed by their presence. Putting his hands to his face, Prince William, 15, walked closely behind his father on to the harbourside.

The young Prince is known to be wary of photographers and shares his mother's distress at the almost continuous presence of paparazzi outside Kensington Palace.

The Princess, who returned on Sunday night from her visit to landmine victims in Bosnia, was said to be relaxed about publication at the weekend of photographs showing her embracing Dodi Fayed. There has been no complaint or comment from her office about invasion of privacy since the long-lens photographs appeared.

The Princess, who was at Kensington Palace yesterday, is not due to undertake her next official engagement until next month. Mr Fayed, 41, whose father Mohamed Al Fayed owns Harrods, spent yesterday at his desk in the store's product development department. He is due to leave for his home in Los Angeles at the end of this week.

During a weekend in Paris last month, Mr Fayed took the Princess to the former Paris home of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, which is owned by his father. Speculation that the Princess and Mr Fayed might live at the chateau if they married was dismissed as "ridiculously premature" by friends yesterday.

An hour after Prince William and Prince Harry left *Britannia*, their cousins, the Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie, were helped aboard by their father, the Duke of York. The Duke of Edinburgh and Viscount and Viscountess Linley joined them for a cruise around the Western Isles.

The Prince of Wales and his sons then left by car for Balmoral, where they hope to be free of long lenses.

Changing photographs is child's play

By Stephen Farrell and Carol Midgley

THE camera has always lied and the computer is a willing accomplice.

Time was forced to apologise in June 1994 after it published a darkened police mugshot of O.J. Simpson on its front cover shortly after the death of his wife. The magazine used a computer to make the former American football player seem blacker and with more stubble than in the identical picture used by its rival *Newsweek*.

Black groups said that the picture played on white fears of stereotypes of violent African-Americans. *Time* defended it as "a work of art", intended to convey a sombre impression but later apologised, saying "no racial implication was intended".

Modern computer technology has made manipulation child's play for anyone with a home computer and £500 Adobe Photoshop software, used legitimately by photographers to trim pictures, remove blemishes and balance colours.

Pictures are stored digitally on a computer disk and can be electronically airbrushed by a sweep of the computer mouse. However, long before Photoshop, trickery was carried out for financial and political gain — or just plain mischief.

In 1917, two schoolgirls fooled Arthur Conan Doyle and photographic experts worldwide with the Cottingley fairies, apparently playing in a Yorkshire dell. Elsie Wright and her cousin Frances Griffiths drew the fairies in sepia on card, pinned them to toadstools and took the pictures with a cheap box camera, admitting the hoax only decades later.

The Cottingley fairies picture that fooled experts worldwide

Soviet leaders were early masters of the art. A newsreel still of Lenin addressing the Red Army in May 1920 was doctored to remove Stalin's rival Trotsky from the wooden platform, and Stalin's propaganda experts faked another picture to show him sitting alongside his apparent friend and mentor Lenin.

In December 1994 London's *Evening Standard* newspaper removed a beer bottle from a picture of John Prescott and his wife Pauline, leaving just wine glasses on a table in front of them above a caption "champagne socialists".

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Ministers study proposal to open clubs on Sunday

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

NIGHTCLUBS would be able to open on Sundays under *proposals being studied by* Home Office ministers. The entertainment industry has put forward a plan to end the 1780 Sunday Observance Act that prevents clubs selling tickets for dancing on the sabbath.

But the proposal will be resisted by groups opposed to eroding the special status of Sunday. It is likely they will lobby in Parliament for any further changes to be introduced by Parliament rather than by ministerial order — as has occurred under previous changes to licensing laws.

Many clubs get round the ban by operating as a restaurant, giving free buffet meals to guests and claiming that they have paid for them.

A Home Office spokesman said last night: "The industry has asked us to look again at Sunday dancing and we are looking at it."

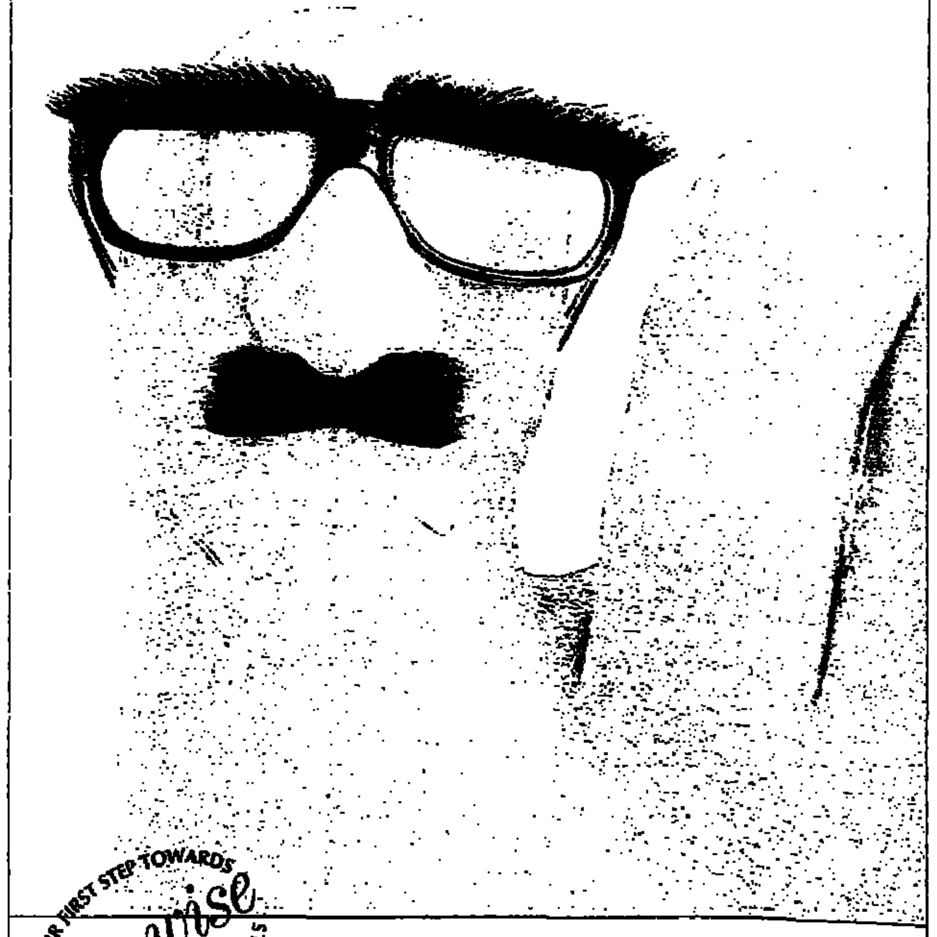
An attempt last year to reform the Act's dancing provisions failed because the House of Lords believes any change should be introduced by primary legislation, involving full debate in both Houses of Parliament.

Last night Michael Schluter, director of the Keep Sunday Special Campaign, said that stringent safeguards would be needed to ensure that clubbers did not wreck other people's Sundays. He said: "If people want to dance on a Sunday, that's fine, but they should not be allowed to do that at the expense of people who want to keep their Sunday a special day for peace and quiet and their families."

John Roberts, general secretary of the Lord's Day Observance Society, voiced strong opposition to any change. He warned: "Opening nightclubs on Sundays would mean more noise, drinking, accidents and fighting, all of which are already endemic to the sort of society which we are creating."

Peter Stringfellow, owner of Stringfellows nightclub in central London, said he doubted that people would go "crazy" for Sunday dancing in London, although it might be different outside the capital.

There's no disguising problem toenails



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Drug companies' loss leaders cost the NHS millions

Brand names are sold cheaply to hospitals. The price is paid when the patient goes home, writes **Ian Murray**

DRUG companies are milking the National Health Service of hundreds of millions of pounds a year by exploiting a severe shortage of hospital funds.

They sell expensive brand-name products at huge discounts to hospitals, knowing that patients insist on being prescribed the same drugs by their GPs when they go home. The deal can save hospitals hundreds of thousands of pounds on their drugs bill.

The local chemist, who cannot get discounts anything like as large as those given to hospitals, has to pay much more for the same drug. Discounts vary from place to place. Drugs dispensed in Kensington and Chelsea chemists cost an average of £10.23: those in Sheffield cost £6.87. The NHS pays the difference.

Much cheaper equivalent drugs are usually available, but the chemist cannot substitute them if the doctor has named the expensive brand on the prescription. Buying just 25 of the brand-name drugs instead of their cheap equivalents cost the NHS over £166 million last year. The national drug bill rose 6.2 per cent in real terms last year to £4 billion, with 485 million prescriptions dispensed.

Laurance Buckman, a GP in Finchley, north London, said that it was common practice for big companies to provide hospitals with drugs at huge discounts. A member of the British Medical Association's negotiating team, he is an expert on general practice audit.

"When you work in hospital you are barely aware of the price of drugs so you don't mind which you prescribe," he said. "It is only when you work in the community that you realise how extremely expensive the branded ones can be."

Dr Buckman said that, in 62 per cent of his prescriptions, he named the cheaper equivalent drugs, but he knew that whenever patients came out of hospital he would probably have to put them on the drug prescribed for them there. "Once you are in practice you are very aware of the cost of drugs and you can get into trouble if you over-prescribe. When a patient comes and tells you the drug he was given by the consultant is doing him good it is almost impossible to get him to agree to a change. It is no point telling him that the cheaper one is just as good because he thinks he is being fobbed off."

He said that major drug companies gave huge discounts to hospitals to make sure their brand names became well-known before the patents on the drugs expired and to beat off competition. "It is not a scandal. These companies are responsible for most of the research into new drugs and they are major exporters which means that they contribute to the economy. They are not a charity but a business and their shareholders expect them to make a profit."

Drug companies can retain a monopoly on drugs they patent for 15 years, during which time they must try to recoup the cost of the research and development on the drug. After that, any firm capable of producing the drug can obtain a licence to do so and undercut the brand-name product.

These generic producers are ready to flood the market with their version of the brand-name product on the day the patent expires. When Glaxo Wellcome's ulcer cure Zantac lost its patent protection recently, competition among generic producers to win a share of its market drove down the price of its equivalent, ranitidine, by 25 per cent. Zantac, however, costing £27.89 for 60 tablets, retains a dominant share of the market.

Charitable donation is another way by which the big producers help to keep their name at the forefront of doctors' minds, especially in hospitals. Glaxo Wellcome has donated £1.75 million towards the construction of a pharmacy unit at King's College Hospital in London. Since 1989 it has given £13 million to health-related projects.

No strings are attached to such gifts. "We are committed to being a good corporate citizen, helping to do things in the field where we work," a spokesman said.

The system of discounts for the 4,000 doctors in rural areas who are allowed to dispense is open to abuse and the Government has ordered an inquiry into the way it works. The doctors provide a much-needed service for patients who would find difficulty going to a chemist shop for prescriptions. Most of them are completely honest but they are exposed to temptation.

Drugs companies are assumed to give them a 9.57 per cent discount for their supplies, but in reality discounts for them are often as high as 30 per cent. It is quite easy for them to pocket the difference. The NHS Executive found evidence that some doctors had prescribed cheap generic equivalent drugs but charged the NHS for the expensive branded names.

US firm wants loan equipment sent back

Trusts face bill to replace operating theatre machines, reports **Dominic Kennedy**

ONE of America's biggest drugs companies has asked NHS hospitals in Wales to send back vital equipment from operating theatres after losing a major contract to supply anaesthetic.

Abbott Laboratories, of Chicago, which lost deals worth £1.2 million to supply gases used to keep patients unconscious during surgery, has requested the return of essential machines known as vaporisers.

Hospitals have to decide whether to use new, cheaper suppliers for the gas but spend extra money on equipment. Abbott says that the vaporisers were on loan, but will let hospitals buy them secondhand or rent them instead of sending them back.

Viain Fenton-May, who chairs the NHS purchasing committee which dropped Abbott as a supplier, said the offer should be resisted.

Since the mid-1980s, Abbott has supplied Welsh hospitals with two gases used in anaesthesia: isoflurane and the less-powerful enflurane. Both require specially calibrated vaporisers to turn the liquid into gas and mix it with air and oxygen to be inhaled.

Two years ago, Abbott lost the contract in Wales to supply isoflurane, the more frequently used of the gases, to Norton Healthcare, a cheaper competitor, but kept the enflurane deal. When the latest two-year contracts, which took effect last month, were being negotiated, the All-Wales Drug Contracting Committee was warned by Abbott that it owned many vaporisers.

"Abbott claims most of the trusts in Wales have some," said Mr Fenton-May, who chairs the committee. "Ten to 15 years ago these were left in hospitals almost as an inducement to use the product.

"It was effectively stuff that was left by drug reps who said 'You need these to try our product'. It was just dropped out of boots of cars."

Abbott says it owns between three and 20 vaporisers per trust in Wales. New machines can cost as much as £2,500. However, the decision to choose cheaper suppliers has saved about £300,000 a year, which Mr Fenton-May believes is enough to replace any machines given by the Chicago company.

Trusts have the power to make their own deals to stay with Abbott but he doubts they will. "The economics of it are that they would be foolish to do so," he said.

The Pembrokeshire NHS Trust, which runs the 368-bed Withybush General Hospital in Haverfordwest, has about 30 vaporisers but is uncertain how many belong to Abbott. It is continuing to use Abbott and may negotiate to buy the machines secondhand, although it is under pressure to accept the new contract.

Ken Cottam, a director of Abbott, said: "It is just not economically viable to leave vaporisers in place when no business is forthcoming. It is a normal commercial arrangement."

Neil Fingleton, 7ft 4½in and still growing, has a fondness for high-energy foods

When gigantism can cause big problems

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

NEIL FINGLETON is not worried about the end of the university grants system. The 16-year-old Middlesbrough schoolboy has already won a scholarship to study at an American university for three years.

Whereas other adolescents attribute their scholarships to long hours spent studying, he attributes his to a huge appetite, with a fondness for milk, turkey and fruit.

Neil is 7ft 4½in and still growing, qualities which proved irresistible to a university governing body concerned about the future of its basketball team. Most parents would be dismayed by the cost of buying size 14 shoes, the high price of outsize clothes, the need to provide special beds and the amount of food required to fuel an 18st teenager who might even make 8ft.

Very tall people themselves find cars and bicycles uncomfortable and are socially embarrassed when they tower over their contemporaries. Unusually tall children are often permanently damaged by the social and emotional problems of their height but doctors are also concerned for their physical health.

Photographs of Neil Fingleton show him to be reasonably proportioned, and since he has a 6ft 8in brother and 6ft 2in sister his height may be no more than a benign family characteristic, displayed to the full in Neil's case because of his enormous appetite for nourishing, high-energy food.

The familial tendency to great height, accompanied by long, spidery limbs, without evidence of any disease, runs in some families, more often black than white. However, there are also several diseases in which gigantism is one of the characteristics.

The best known cause of gigantism and acromegaly is the condition in which there is an excessive production of growth hormone from a benign tumour of the pituitary. Fortunately, Neil's strong family history of great height would seem to exclude this, as this pituitary abnormality is not familial. In only 1 per cent of cases of gigantism and acromegaly is the excessive production of growth hormone apparent before puberty. Usually it becomes obvious in a patient only between 30 and 50.

> ‘The familial tendency to great height, without signs of disease, runs in some families’

When excessive hormone is produced in children not only do they grow to a great height but usually also have one or more of the features of acromegaly, whether it is the heavy, protuberant jaw, enlarged internal organs, changes in the skin or even signs of the heart disease and hypertension which will trouble them in later life. Most of the famous Victorian giants suffered from the production of excessive growth hormone and most failed to live beyond middle age.

One of the more common causes of excess height, also associated with long, gangling arms, huge hands and long, spidery fingers, is Marfan's syndrome. As this is a genetic disorder it is usually found that other members of a family are also affected.

Usually when a family is afflicted with Marfan's syndrome, only a few of the signs are present in any one patient. This makes diagnosis difficult but is unfortunate as many of the features of the disease endanger health and life.

Most of the manifestations of Marfan's are the result of elasticity in connective tissue, with the result that the aorta is weakened and the support for the lenses of the eyes is so feeble that sight is endangered. The double-jointedness from which patients with Marfan's suffer also leads to early arthritis.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Anons in court over jet protest

Four men called Mr Anon went on trial accused over a protest against aircraft exports to Indonesia. The men, who refused to give personal details to police and the court, are believed to be from East Timor, which Indonesia claims as its territory. They denied trespassing at a site belonging to British Aerospace, which sells Hawk jets to the Indonesian Government. Four Britons, including Father Arthur Fitzgerald, 50, a priest from Liverpool, also denied the charge at Lytham Magistrates' Court, Lancashire.

Birds on a wire

Conservationists have demanded a cut in the number of deer fences ringing Highlands pine forests in an attempt to reduce the death rates of grouse and the rare capercaillie. A study published yesterday showed that large numbers of the birds die after flying into the 6ft-high fences.

Priest sex case

A Roman Catholic priest was remanded on bail yesterday on condition that he surrender his passport after appearing before Cardiff Crown Court accused of 22 offences against five girls and two boys. Father John Lloyd, 56, of St Joseph's Church, Penarth, denies four rapes and 18 indecent assaults.

Propeller injury

A pilot using his car to jump start a light aircraft was badly injured by the plane's propeller. He was hit as he was about to shut his car bonnet. A report found there was no evidence the plane had moved. He had planned to fly from Parham, West Sussex, to Lydd, in Kent, on April 15.

Child loses eye

A two-year-old boy has lost his right eye after he was shot at close range by an air weapon at a house in Bootle, Liverpool. He is to have further surgery as doctors fear the pellet may be in his head. Two teenagers age 13 and 18 were arrested and released on police bail in connection with the incident.

Degree of spice

Students will be able to take a course in Spice Girls studies from September. Honiton Community College in Devon is offering an eight-week course — a "post-feminist look at cultural studies" — that will examine "girl power", the success of the group and its impact on young fans.

Boxing clever

Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary, is encouraging a couple who have bought the Thomas à Becket pub in the Old Kent Road to apply for lottery funding to turn the upstairs gym into a boxing museum. The south London gym closed earlier this year.

Public proposal

Army piper James Thomson chose the massed ranks of the military pipes and drums, and an audience of 8,500, to witness his proposal. Charlotte Valley, 19, was picked out by spotlights at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo as Piper Thomson, 27, went down on one knee. She accepted.

Sounds deadly

A blob found by Adrian Massey in the mouthpiece of the didgeridoo he was about to play turned out to be a deadly Black Widow spider. Mr Massey, 21, of Headington, Oxfordshire, who bought the instrument in Australia, said: "I felt sick at how lucky I was not to have been bitten."

CORRECTION

The desk at which Edward VIII signed his abdication (photograph, August 11) is part of a collection of Windsor memorabilia on display at Sotheby's in London this week. It will be auctioned in New York next month.

Sea bass began to revisit the Thames in the 1970s

Sea bass return to Thames in force

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

MILLIONS of tiny sea bass were detected under London Bridge yesterday, underlining the steady improvement in the cleanliness of the Thames.

The number of the fish spotted swimming upstream was the biggest since the species began returning, along with salmon, in the 1970s, the Environment Agency said. Sea bass and scores of other fish were once common in the Thames, but were killed off by pollution.

A spokesman for the agency said the sea bass were spawned in the Channel and swam upstream to put on weight. The fry will swim probably as far as Teddington in west London and stay in the river until the autumn, when they will be about 5cm to 7cm long. They will then swim back to the Thames Estuary and out to sea.

The agency said yesterday that other species were returning in healthy numbers to the Thames Estuary, and in some cases further upstream. These include Dover sole, flounder, lamprey, stickleback, eels, conger eels, Channel catfish and sea horses.

Only Gaelic speakers need apply

BY AUDREY MAGEE

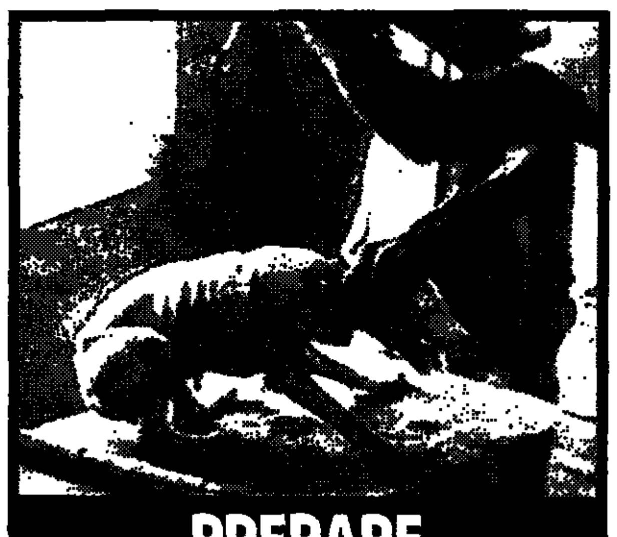
HOUSES go on sale in Dublin next month exclusively for Gaelic speakers. It is the first time that Gaelic language enthusiasts in the Irish Republic have tried to create a gaeltacht, or Irish speaking area, in an urban setting.

Twenty houses in a new development in west Dublin have been earmarked for Irish speakers and their families. Everything, from borrowing sugar to educating the children, will be done in Gaelic while the other residents of the 365 houses on the Lucan estate carry on in English.

The scheme has produced a mixed reaction in Ireland. Some commentators have lauded it as the perfect way to save the Irish language, currently spoken on a regular basis by 11 per cent of the 3.6 million living in Ireland. Others have described it as an attempt at "ghettoisation" and "artificial insemination of an urban gaeltacht". Pobal Mha Life, the scheme's organisers, reject criticisms that they are creating a Gaelic ghetto or alienating English speakers. Ananrai O Braonain, co-chairman of Pobal, said Irish speakers persistently tried to accommodate English speakers.

"When we want to talk to each other we are forced to meet in pubs or Irish clubs or switch to English if one in a group does not understand. Now we have a chance with this estate to build a situation where people use the language as part of everyday life. It's not a ghetto, at least not in a negative sense."

There has been a resurgence of interest in the Irish language in recent years and Hamilton Osborne King, the estate agents, say they have received dozens of calls from Gaelic speakers interested in the Dublin houses, which will be priced from £85,000 when they go on sale. A spokeswoman said: "We are surprised at the reaction. We weren't sure if the idea would be popular but it seems it is."



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When Old Boys lost their grip on soccer

Brian Glanville looks at the rise of professionalism as league and cup captured the public's imagination

PROFESSIONAL football in England was up and running fast by Victoria's diamond jubilee year, 1897. It was an especially fine year for Aston Villa, the Birmingham club who pulled off the double of League Championship and FA Cup, the first club to do so since Preston North End, the so-called "Invincibles", in 1889.

That was the year after the foundation of the Football League, which then consisted of one division. It was inspired by an Aston Villa director, the Scotsman William McGregor, who took as his model the American baseball championship, awarding two points for a win and one for a draw. The formation of the league solved a problem for the professionalised clubs of the provinces: a lack of regular fixtures.

The FA Cup was established in 1872 and quickly became immensely popular. But by itself it hardly offered sufficient games to the professional clubs, not least if they were knocked out early on.

Friendly games had to fill the breach, but they did so inadequately. As the classic *Association Football and The Men Who Made It*, by Alfred Gibson and William Pickford (1906), put it: "It was evident that this class of game, with its uncertainties and its lack of excitement, was not a sufficiently strong pabulum for the multitude."

Villa's origins were fairly typical. The club was founded in 1874 by a group of young men connected with the Aston Villa Wesleyan Chapel and played first on a field at Wellington Road, Perry Bar. The Scot George Ramsey — as the others watched him practise, "his dribbling held them spellbound" — was made captain and, in his small, round polo cap, soon became a pivotal figure.

Other celebrated Scots, such as the Hunter brothers, followed. Scots, indeed, were the core of the early professional game, many coming south to "find money in their boots".

Five years after the formation of Villa, West Bromwich Strollers, later known as Albion, were established by a group of local youngsters, initially playing on waste ground. Not until 1881 did Preston North End turn from rugby to football, losing their first match to neighbours Blackburn Rovers 16-0. Within a few years, however, Major Sudell, their remarkable manager and the first of his kind, defied the FA rules outlawing professionalism to build a formidable team.

Blackburn Rovers, the first provincial team to challenge the hegemony of the mighty Old Boys sides, such as the Old Etonians, in the FA Cup, were founded in 1874 by a celebrated referee, John Lewis.

In 1897, nearly 66,000 people packed the Crystal Palace to see Villa beat Everton 3-2 in a thrilling final of high quality. The cup itself was a new one. Two years earlier, after Villa had beaten neighbours West Bromwich in the first Crystal Palace final, the original was stolen from a shop window.

So Villa, having run away with the championship by an 11-point margin, added the cup to their laurels. All five goals came within 25 minutes. Villa, 2-1 down, equalised, then won with a 43rd minute goal by John Cowan, one of two brothers. However, John Bell, Everton's inside right and scorer of their first goal, was the star of a notable occasion.

By then, the game had come a long way from its early development and initial domination by the great public schools and their alumni. Football of a kind had been played in England since the Middle Ages, often in violent ways, but after Dr Thomas Arnold had introduced muscular Christianity to Rugby School it became, so to speak, domesticated.

The problem was that each school tended to have its own code, sometimes involving the hands, sometimes not, and with very different types of goal. The breakthrough was made in 1862 by J.C. Thring of Uppingham School, who, while at Cambridge University, produced a ten-rule treatise called *The Simplest Game*. Hands could be used only to stop the ball. Tripping and heel kicking were forbidden. But the following year, when the Football Association was formed at the Freemasons' Arms in Great Queen Street, London, the Blackheath club withdrew in protest at the rule forbidding hacking.

The development in Scotland of the passing game, as opposed to the individual, dribbling style favoured by public school men, revolutionised play. After initial opposition by the FA, professionalism was made legal in 1885. The same year Forrest, a half-back with Blackburn Rovers, became the first professional to be capped for England.

HULTON-GETTY

Soccer in Cambridge, 1887, a year before the league was founded

Six shillings set North against South

Christopher Irvine on the economic reality behind the foundation of rugby league

TWO very different insurrections occurred 61 years apart during Queen Victoria's reign. The first was at Tolpuddle and involved resistance by six farm labourers to a reduction in their wages. The other, less celebrated, caused the so-called "great schism" in rugby, between union and league. The argument in 1895 was over six shillings; it was also about class prejudice and provincialism.

The money compensated men who took time off work to play for teams in the North which drew their strength from mills, factories and mines. "Broken time" payments amounted to creeping professionalism to the upper and middle classes who ran rugby. The Rugby Football Union, the governing body set up in 1871, was zealous in its pursuit of those who were paid — albeit trifling amounts. The blue collars of the North were set against the old school ties of the South. However, the North was by then the stronghold of English rugby and what the clubs really sought was control of their own affairs.

Events leading up to the breakaway by 20 Yorkshire and Lancashire clubs on August 25, 1895, soured relations for the next century. The RFU witch-hunt was led by the Rev Francis Marshall, a Yorkshire representative.

There were ingenious ways of hiding payments. In his history of rugby league, *A People's Game*, Geoffrey Moorhouse wrote that an entry in Leeds Parish Church Club's books was said to have covered the cost of cigars, champagne, an oyster supper, a theatre trip and a river cruise — while the team was playing on Merseyside.

The split occurred at the George Hotel in Huddersfield, where the Northern Union was formed, based on the principle of bona fide broken time. In two years, the Northern Union (it did not become the Rugby League until 1922) had eliminated the lineout; in 1906, to better entertain spectators, it reduced the numbers on a team from 15 to 13. Rugby union in England was dealt a blow from which it never entirely recovered. The two sports have rarely been as closely aligned as after rugby union's adoption of professionalism in 1995 — rugby league's centenary year. The circle of six shillings has been squared by separate multi-million-pound deals and some players swapping between the codes.

W.G. Grace retired in 1900 after scoring a total of 54,896 runs

Man who made a century his own

By Alan Hamilton

TWO jubilees followed in quick session a century ago and both were seen as milestones of the age. A few months after Victoria had celebrated 60 years on the throne, W.G. Grace celebrated his 50th birthday with a guest appearance in the Gentlemen v Players at Lord's, a match attended by vast autograph-seeking crowds and a torrent of advance publicity.

The match was something of an anti-climax. The lithe sportsman of yesteryear, who would eventually retire in 1900 after 54,896 runs and 126 centuries, had grown portly and not a little stiff. His vast beard had turned ash-grey and his weight had ballooned to 20 stone, making it hard for him, stationed in the outfield, to pick up the ball. He scored 31 not out.

But, with the possible exception of Gladstone, Grace was the best-known Englishman of the late Victorian age. His records still enthral, but he could equally be quirky. In 1898, his last great season, he suddenly declared at 93 when obviously on his way to a century. Asked why, he said he had remembered that 93 was the only score between 0 and 100 he had never got. He died, aged 67, in 1915 from a heart attack during one of the first air raids of the First World War.

NEXT

Dizzy's house of royal souvenirs, and the Gladstones who could never throw anything away. The world of Victorian politics

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EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

Jelly theatre serves up mould breaking drama

By Dalya Alberge
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A GIANT "jelly", a lorry and a wooden shed are among the more interesting places in which to find a piece of theatre at this year's Edinburgh festival.

With some 14,297 performances on the fringe alone — not to mention events on the main, film, jazz and book festivals — the desperation for a venue, however modest, is more acute than ever. Performances are everywhere and anywhere: where there's a group of people in Edinburgh, there's probably a happening of some kind near by.

"The world's largest jelly" — an 18ft-high inflatable nylon tent shaped like a jelly-mould — is sited on a lawn near the bustling Pleasance theatre. Inside, *Gasp!*, a play about inflated egos, is being staged by Economical Truth, drama graduates from Bristol University and elsewhere. Their makeshift theatre can take an audience of up to 30, each of whom is invited to don a lifejacket and tuck into a plate of jelly.

In tents experience: cast of *Gasp!* and the theatre where audiences wear lifejackets and eat jelly

There is a sense of desperation about the actors, comics and musicians handing out leaflets on street corners. The Comedy Café from London goes in search of audiences in a lorry with a 40-seat theatre. "Tripterranus", a show that could be said to have come off the back of a lorry, promises "verbal and visual gags".

At Mary King's Close in the city centre, drama is set in haunted vaults. In staging Angela Carter's *The Bloody Chamber*, the Grid Iron Theatre Company thought the setting would enhance the mood.

Last year, two rival performers threatened legal action over claims to having the smallest theatre on Earth; one of them performed in a motorcycle sidecar. This year, Paul Garner and Sarah Nield have created "the smallest Speakeasy in the world", a 12-seater shed where everything is in miniature.

Bar stools are so tiny, this show will make all but the slim feel uncomfortable. The two-hour show breaks every 15 minutes for different audience sittings. Yesterday, the heat was a problem. "Steam was rising off the roof," Mr Garner said. "But only the performers suffer."

Festival reports, page 15

MICHAEL POWELL

Anti-road campaigners who took the mock protest a little too seriously yesterday. Several were arrested

Protest actors get a whiff of reality

A PUBLICITY stunt to promote a play about road rage at the festival got out of hand yesterday when it prompted an environmental group to stage a protest that led to several arrests.

An estimated 200 people turned up after learning that the cast of *Road Rage*, "an anti-road protest play" by Andrew Loudon, would be holding a mock protest. The director, searching for authenticity and striving to reproduce the sights, sounds and smells of an anti-road protest, had already introduced a no-bath rule among the actors, to get that "just unwashed grunge look".

Members of Reclaim the Streets, who want *roads* returned to pedestrians, turned up and blocked the Grassmarket for two hours. Mr Loudon said the experience had been frightening. Until yesterday, he thought that he had overdramatised the violence in his play's opening scene: "But what I saw was far more violent."

Although some of the cast were "keen to be arrested as they feel so strongly", none was and the show goes on.

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Police face corruption threat from dirty money

By Stewart Tendler, crime correspondent

MILLIONAIRE criminals are increasingly trying to corrupt or compromise detectives, according to the head of criminal intelligence operations.

Albert Pacey, director-general of the National Criminal Intelligence Service, said police corruption was an increasing danger because of the large sums now available to organised crime. He said: "There is now concern among senior officers. I think the police service will need to be constantly on its guard."

Mr Pacey's comments come a few weeks after Sir Paul Condon, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, said there were up to 200 dishonest officers in his force he would like to dismiss. Other chief constables and Home Office officials are known to be concerned at corruption.

Mr Pacey, who retires shortly, said there was a core of 140 "premier league" criminals at the top of the British underworld who the NCIS was now tracking. At least one of the targets is among the richest men in Britain.

He said the service was now so concerned about the risk of leaks or infiltration that a full-time security officer had been appointed. The officer, recruited from Whitehall and believed to be a former MI5 officer, was chosen after a risk assessment by NCIS suggested that confidential files and operations could be at risk. Earlier this year the service was criticised after hundreds of transcripts of telephone taps went missing.

Mr Pacey, who is retiring after four years at the helm, said the risk from organised crime extended beyond police officers. In other countries, major criminals had suborned public servants, politicians and business communities. "Unless you watch carefully they can get a grip without people realising it," he said.

When officers told their counterparts abroad that Britain had seen little corruption so far, they were told that this could easily change.

Mr Pacey said that one way of limiting corruption would be to attack the criminals' assets, and that Britain should consider adopting gang-busting legislation used in America and the Irish Republic to seize assets. He said the amount of cash now seized in confiscations was tiny.

In Ireland, a law passed after the murder of the journalist Veronica Guerin created a Criminal Assets Bureau. The bureau involves a partnership between police and tax authorities and since its inception courts have seized millions of pounds and put criminals to flight.

Mr Pacey said any legislation in Britain would appear draconian, but he said it would be aimed at serious criminals. "I can point to people living in council houses five years ago who now have massive homes, Jaguar cars and boats and all the appearances of immense wealth. I think there is going to have to be a change in the seizure of assets."

Pacey: wants easier access to illegal assets

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Plague of rats rules flooded Polish city

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WROCLAW

AFTER dusk the ancient city of Wroclaw becomes a city of rats. Black rats, brown rats, rats on a tightrope, rats that tap dance in the attic; the rodent legions that infested the Hamelin of the Pied Piper have taken over this city as the floodwaters slowly ease along the River Oder.

Only one kind of rat is not on display: the thin rat. Sebastian Turkiewicz, the city's rat catcher, said: "They are so sated that they are not even sniffing our heaps of granulated poison." They have been gorging themselves on rubbish and rotting food which, having been swept through the streets by the floodwaters, is settling on doorsteps.

Normally rat packs have a taster, a hapless recruit to sample the bait while the others watch to see if it is safe. Today there is decomposing food in abundance, great mounds of vegetables under the washed-up tyres and planking. In the Kozanow housing estate in Wroclaw, the water stormed into a fish shop and carried out hundreds of deep-frozen fish.

Slawa Kozminska, clearing water from her living room with a broom and a bucket, is relaxed about the rats' takeover bid. For the moment she is more concerned about the mosquito swarms that fly in as soon as the window is opened.

A brown rat: prodigious ability to reproduce

"Close the window and you sweat; open it and you are bitten. The rats leave us alone — but they are getting nervous." You can see them in daylight, running in threes and fours as if on patrol. They seem to have lost their fear.

There are three million of the rodents in Wroclaw, four for every inhabitant of this southwestern Polish city. Soon that number could double or treble. Female rats take 24 days to come to term. The first response of the rats, once they had saved themselves from the torrents, was to couple. Typically a rat would give birth to five or seven offspring, of whom three or four might die because of a lack of food. Now there is no shortage.

Many cellars are still under water: the sewerage is still blocked in some districts. Faeces float around once-busy streets or are fished out by men in boats. As the sun beats down, there is a terrible stench. Lavatories throw back their contents. Electricity works in only a few households. Vegetables, the local hygiene office says, should be washed in water that has been boiled for at least five minutes.

Slowly, almost a month after the first torrent, order is returning. But the rats have taken command. Ewa Bochniarz recalls the rats' initial response: "They were climbing on to the high branches of trees, on top of the traffic lights and road signs." Rats sense catastrophe early — not only sinking ships but also earthquakes and floods — and they swim strongly. They not only sense disaster, they survive it.

When American scientists visited a Pacific atoll that had been battered by atomic tests, they found everything, every plant, had been killed or burnt away, apart from a pack of healthy rats. This capacity for survival may explain the shifting attitudes in Wroclaw. "Normally we would have beaten him to death," said Barbara Gornik, on the Kozanow estate. "But when I saw the rat struggling for his life, clinging to a branch, I just had to throw him a piece of wood. He clambered onto the raft and I suppose I saved his life."

In a strange way, some of these people under stress seem to mimic the social protocols and solidarity of the rat world (biologists have recorded incidents of healthy rats leading blind ones along gutters with a piece of straw). Teenage thugs smashed in the windows of a private bicycle shop and looted the stock during the early days of the flooding. They then offered the bikes free to stranded flood victims who were crossing streets on improvised pontoon bridges. But the flood victims refused the offer: they did not want to benefit from looted property.

The patience with the rats may soon run out and then Wroclaw will be turning to the West for poison aid. The most effective weapon, Wroclaw officials say, are anti-coagulants which fool the "taster" rats and which take some time to work.

The floods spared the recently renovated market square, though not the university library (700 volumes are being dried out with blotting paper). The hope is that the 17,000 evacuees will soon be able to return and that the city will be in order again by the autumn, in time to attract at least a few tourists. First, though, the rats will have to go and humans will have to assert control again.

PAWEL KOPCZYNSKI / REUTER

Wroclaw under water during the recent floods. Now that the River Oder is at last returning to its course, local people are faced with a matter of immediate health concern: how to get rid of the army of rats

Fossil of bird with hooves found in Outback

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

Scientists in Australia claimed yesterday to have discovered the fossil of the largest bird that ever lived, an ostrich-like creature that was as tall as an elephant.

Experts say the prehistoric bird, which stood 9.8ft tall and had hooves like a horse, was a third bigger than any specimen previously discovered.

Palaeontologist Peter Murray, who discovered the fossilised skeleton of the bird, known as *Alcoota dromornis*, outside Alice Springs, said the bird would have been as heavy as a bullock and could run at up to 16 miles an hour.

He claims the flightless bird, which lived about eight million years ago, was bigger than Madagascar's giant elephant bird, which up to now has been regarded as the biggest bird that ever lived.

Dr Murray has assembled the skeleton of the bird for the Museum of Central Australia in Alice Springs, where he is curator. He said the *Alcoota dromornis* had human-sized legs and three long, slender toes on each hooved foot. "It would not have been ferocious, but if attacked it would have been able to kick its opponents to death and it would have been able to outrun anything that might have been after it."

The fossilised skeleton of the *Alcoota dromornis* is the latest in a series of discoveries to be made at Alcoota, outside Alice Springs. A number of fossils have been found there over the past 13 years.

Dr Murray said yesterday he had also discovered bones of a giant, rhinoceros-like marsupial that could either be a much bigger specimen of a herbivore known as *Pyramios alcootense* or of a previously undiscovered creature. He said: "The story is very exciting. We knew that *Pyramios* had a large range of sizes, but the bones we have found show it a third bigger than anything previously discovered — about the size of a small rhino or an Asian buffalo."

Dr Murray said he planned to write about his discoveries for scientific journals. He said: "I suppose it is time we wrote about it, but you keep discovering new things."

Berlin raids on building sites catch foreigners

BY DEBORAH COLLCUTT

IN A series of raids on government building sites in Berlin, authorities have arrested scores of foreign workers and employees for offences including working illegally.

The *Bild* daily reported that teams of tax investigators, border police and state legislators found 173 illegal workers employed on some big government building projects, including the new parliament on Unter den Linden boulevard.

Eight raids, between February and June this year, uncovered many offences being committed on the sites, such as illegal employment and undercutting of the statutory minimum wage, putting jobs of German developers and builders at risk.

On three separate visits to the Reichstag building site, authorities exposed 13 firms that had hired 67 illegal foreign workers for cut-price wages. Similar operations were encountered at the sites of the new Justice Ministry, the federal press office, an armed forces hospital and on land where civil service accommodation is being built.

Last night, the Berlin public prosecutor's office would not comment on the nationalities of the workers arrested. About 50,000 British builders are employed in eastern Germany and in rebuilding Berlin, which takes over from Bonn as capital next year.

Most of the workers allegedly claim unemployment benefit and pay no tax or national insurance. They also endure appalling conditions, both on and off site, for wages that outstrip rates paid in their home countries.

Waigel will press for cut in Bonn payments to EU

FROM DEBORAH COLLCUTT IN FRANKFURT

THEO WAIGEL, the German Finance Minister, may resort to blocking parliamentary business to force a reduction in Bonn's contributions to the European Union.

In an interview in this week's *Spiegel* magazine, Herr Waigel says Germany will sanction grants to Europe's poorer regions, when they are reviewed in 1999, only if "we get a new burden-sharing as well". At present, Germany not only pays more — around £16 billion — to Brussels, but also gets back less than any other EU nation in grants and financial support.

"It is no longer acceptable that one country, Germany, should meet a 60 per cent share of the EU's expenditure," Herr Waigel told the magazine.

He proposes that Germany contribute 0.4 per cent instead of the present 0.6 per cent of its gross national product to Brussels, a reduction of up to £2.4 billion.

Supported by the ruling coalition and the opposition Social Democrats, Herr Waigel recently told regional governments that Germany was paying nearly £5 billion more to the EU that it can afford in the present economic climate of weak growth and record high unemployment. Between 1991 and 1996, this amounted to Bonn contributing £48 billion more than it got back.

The details of the new plan are contained in "Agenda 2000", which Herr Waigel plans to present to EU colleagues this autumn in support of a reduction in contributions for Bonn by the end of the century.

The sudden haste with which the matter is being dealt stems from the fear among party leaders and economists that financial demands on Germany will increase with every new member admitted to the EU.

Herr Waigel also told *Spiegel* that Germany was not as well off as it was before unification. "Germany has the right to demand a change to our contribution rate because of a change in our wealth," he said.

Herr Waigel also accused tax-haven countries, such as Britain (Channel Islands and Isle of Man), Ireland and Luxembourg, which profit from EU transfers, of "unfair tax dumping".

He complained of being "bled dry" by such countries which lure large German companies and banks abroad with the promise of attractive tax rates. He called on all EU members to unite politically to stamp out this practice.

☐ Dresden: German prosecutors said yesterday that two soldiers had admitted firebombing an Italian workers' hostel because they hated foreigners. The soldiers, aged 18 and 20, were detained on Sunday after the building in Dresden was badly damaged on Saturday. No one was hurt and the Italians had gone on holiday the day before the attack, police said. Authorities found swastikas daubed on the building and said witnesses reported that the suspected attackers had shouted Nazi slogans shortly after the fire started. *(Reuter)*

Plavsic: her own police force will be allowed

Karadzic guards outlawed

Sarajevo: Special police forces in Bosnia will be banned unless they are used to protect senior elected officials or dignitaries, a spokesman for the Nato-led peace force said yesterday.

By the end of August any police personnel not certified by the UN police will be judged illegal, said Major John Blakeley. Since special police forces in the Serb-controlled half of Bosnia have protected indicted war crimes suspects, such as Radovan Karadzic, the new policy could further isolate the wartime Serb leader. There are up to 3,000 "specials".

International officials indicated that Bosnian Serb police forces protecting Biljana Plavsic, the elected President of Republika Srpska, would be allowed to continue their work.

The Foreign Office resumed contact in London yesterday with the Bosnian chargé d'affaires, Magdim Pasic, following agreement in Bosnia over the appointment of joint ambassadors. *(AP/AFP)*

Typhoid and cholera come back to haunt Russia

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S creaking health-care system is struggling to fight off lethal diseases, both old and new, which threaten to raise the nation's staggering mortality rate.

In the latest health scare, Sergei Shoigu, the head of the Emergencies Ministry, has flown to the southern republic of Dagestan to help to combat an outbreak of typhoid. In the past few weeks the disease has swept through several villages near the Caspian Sea, leaving 168 victims in hospital, nearly half of them children. The region is noted for annual epidemics of other water-borne diseases, such as cholera.

This year the capital is not taking any chances of a cholera outbreak, as it prepares for its 850th anniversary celebration. Under an order signed by the chief medical officer of Moscow, all traders arriving in the city from Central Asia, the Caucasus and some Russian republics will be obliged to undergo a compulsory vaccination or face arrest.

Aside from cholera and typhoid, other diseases practically eradicated in the West are growing here. Russia has the highest tuberculosis rate in Europe. It has witnessed an explosion in sexually transmitted diseases such as syphilis, although Aids is still relatively rare. Between 1991 and 1996 nearly half of the world's diphtheria outbreaks were recorded in Russia.

A report released earlier this year revealed that life expectancy for men in Russia is 59 years and 73 years for women. In the world league table Russia ranks in 135th place for men and 100th for women, behind all of Europe, America and most of Asia.

The dramatic drop in life expectancy is largely blamed on the scourge of alcoholism, which since the collapse of the Soviet Union has reached epidemic proportions. Russians on average drink more than 13 litres of pure alcohol annually for every man, woman and child, double the per capita consumption figure in 1990.

When Mikhail Gorbachev launched his anti-alcohol campaign in 1986-1987, life expectancy rose to 65, the highest in Russia's history.

Bets off after ban on Turkish casinos

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

TURKISH casino owners have been left wondering whether to throw in their hands after President Demirel reluctantly signed a law forcing the closure of a casino industry conservatively valued at £1.27 billion.

Mr Demirel had previously vetoed legislation drawn up by the then Islamic-led Government which gave casino operators six months to cash in their chips. He did so on the ground that the law violated existing contractual agreements between many five-star hotels and international operators.

However, the new secular-minded Government surprised many observers by presenting the Bill again to parliament successfully, thus obliging the President to give his consent.

The Turkish press had its fair sprinkling of tragic tales of respectable family men cracking under the strain of gambling debts. That led to a series of regulations stopping casinos from offering perks such as free drinks and a chauffeured limousine to ferry high fliers home from the tables. However, the real public pressure to close the casinos has less to do with a religious backlash than with the widely held suspicion that at least some of the country's 78 gambling halls are run by organised crime.

Casinos awash with cash are popularly seen as one of the links in a series of scandals connecting the police, politicians and organised crime. One casino owner, suspected by American drug enforcement agents of being a key figure in the heroin trade, was murdered in a highly "professional" attack.

Among those accused of the crime are four policemen, members of an elite squad who later served as bodyguards to an MP in Tansu Ciller's True Path party.

Ibrahim Gurdal, the Minister for Tourism, is betting that the legislation will still fail. He said at the weekend that the new law would provoke legal challenges abroad as well as in Turkey's constitutional court.

Ciller: latest scandal came close to her

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US envoy smooths peace path

FROM ROSS DUNN
IN JERUSALEM

AMERICAN efforts to revive the Middle East peace process made headway yesterday as Israeli and Palestinian intelligence chiefs met amid intense shuttle diplomacy by President Clinton's envoy, Dennis Ross.

But thousands of Palestinians, including supporters of Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, and Islamic Jihad, rallied in the West Bank town of Ramallah and Gaza City against Israel's policies. After the Ramallah demonstration, more than 100 young men burnt tyres and threw stones at Israeli soldiers manning an army checkpoint outside the entrance to the city.

Nevertheless, Mr Ross continued to emphasise the need for the two sides to restore security co-operation after the suicide-bomb attack in Jerusalem two weeks ago. The attack claimed a sixteenth victim yesterday when a 49-year-old man died of injuries suffered in the twin blast at the marketplace on July 30.

Mr Ross's plea was in line with statements by Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, and President Clinton. At the same time the American envoy made it clear that at a later date Israel would have to be flexible over Palestinian demands on political issues.

"What we have here is a situation where we need to reestablish a security basis because that can pave the way for putting the process back on track and addressing the political side," he said.

"There has to be, as I have said, a security underpinning. But the political issues also have to be addressed. We want to see the Israeli-Palestinian track go forward because it is the key for making everything else [in the Middle East] work. We want to see efforts at a broader comprehensive settlement pursued as well."

Mr Ross's comments came during a news conference, briefly interrupting a hectic schedule of shuttle diplomacy between Jerusalem and Ramallah, where he held talks with Yassir Arafat, President of the Palestine Authority.

The US envoy was dispatched to the region to repair the breakdown in relations between Israel and the Palestinians after the suicide bombings. Israeli military intelligence officials have yet to determine the identities of the two bombers, but maintain they were most likely Palestinians from the West Bank.

The families of the men at present suspected of having been the attackers have refused to submit to a DNA test, further hampering the Israeli investigation.

Last night thousands of Palestinian protesters marched down Gaza's main street demanding that Israel free their imprisoned sons and end a closure it imposed after the suicide attack. "As long as my son is in prison, I don't feel any peace," said a woman, whose 24-year-old son, Ahmad, is serving a life term in an Israeli jail.

The protesters carried photos of their husbands and sons and waved Palestinian flags. "Yassir — we are with you," one sign read, referring to Mr Arafat.

Palestinian officials say 3,500 political prisoners remain in Israeli jails.

Meanwhile, Rafik Hariri, the Lebanese Prime Minister, accused forces loyal to Mr Arafat of firing rockets from Lebanese soil that injured a woman in northern Israel last Friday. In a telephone interview with the French daily *Le Monde*, he said: "It appears that these were Arafat's people who launched those rockets." But he did not offer evidence to support the allegation.

Mr Hariri said Hezbollah guerrillas, fighting to drive Israeli troops from their south Lebanon "security zone", had denied firing the rockets, and that he believed them. Israel retaliated for the rocket attack with air attacks on southern Lebanon guerrilla bases.

Mr Hariri also criticised comments Mr Arafat made after the suicide bombing, saying that Mr Arafat had accepted the word of Israeli intelligence in blaming foreigners for the attack, and that this explained why Israel was attacking Lebanon.

"He takes his information from the Israelis, even though he knows it to be false," Mr Hariri said. "Mr Arafat well knows that Lebanon has endured much and continues to do so to defend the Palestinian cause. The Israelis hold him responsible for their safety. He responds that they [the suicide bombers] came from abroad," Mr Hariri said.

'Israeli torture' claim

Nabatiyeh: Amnesty International criticised Israel yesterday for refusing to allow it access to a jail in south Lebanon where the human rights group says Lebanese prisoners are being tortured.

"It seems that there is something happening in the Khiam jail which Israel wants to hide. Torture is still ongoing there," Serge Thibodeau, representative of the Canadian branch of the London-based human rights group, said.

About 150 Lebanese are held in Khiam prison, many detained for more than ten years without trial or charge.

Blairs take château retreat on Jospin's doorstep

BY SUSAN BELL
IN PARIS
AND GLEN OWEN

The château at Saint-Martin d'Oydes, which belongs to Sir David Keene, a High Court judge, where the Blairs will [illegible]

TONY BLAIR will spend a week's holiday with his family in a picturesque French château less than eight miles from Cintegabelle, the political fief of Lionel Jospin, the Socialist Prime Minister, the French press reported yesterday.

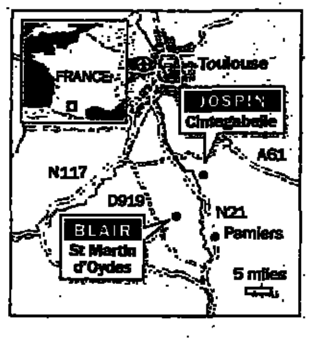
The news that Mr Blair, "the most important man in the United Kingdom", will leave Tuscany on Sunday for the tiny village of Saint-Martin-d'Oydes, 30 miles south of Toulouse, was splashed triumphantly across the front page of the local paper, the *Depêche du Midi*, under the headline "The British Premier Lord of the Manor in Ariège".

According to the newspaper, Mr Blair, his wife Cherie and children, Nicholas, Katherine and Ewan, are to stay for just over a week at the 12th-century château owned by Sir David Keene, a High Court judge, who sits at the hub of the Blairs' circle of legal friends. The "particularly picturesque" village of Saint-Martin d'Oydes, with its fortified houses clustered in a circle around the church, should be an ideal retreat.

The château has more than four acres of gardens, a swimming pool and, most importantly, high walls to protect the Prime Minister and his family from the prying lenses of the paparazzi. In this tranquil setting, the Blairs will be able to enjoy such regional specialties as *cassoulet*. According to the *Depêche du Midi* it is not the first time the family have spent holidays in this corner of the Ariège, between Pamiers and the Lèze valley.

Yesterday speculation on the opportunity for an informal summit between the British and French leaders was rife. M Jospin, who is on holiday in the fashionable resort of Île de Ré off La Rochelle on the Atlantic coast, is due back in Paris at the end of the week. Although it could not confirm a meeting between the two, his Paris office said yesterday that "he could well be in Cintegabelle on Sunday", the day of Mr Blair's arrival.

Even if the two leaders do not meet next week, Mr Blair can be sure the local welcome will be warm. Saint-Martin's 198 inhabitants are reported to



be in a turmoil of excitement, while the mayor, André Bordenave, has called a special meeting of the town council to plan a welcoming ceremony. A reception to which the whole village would be invited to share a glass of wine with the British leader is likely, but M Bordenave said the final decision would be taken "after we have seen Mr Keene".

The community may be hoping that Mr Blair's visit will put their tiny hamlet on the map in the same way that M Jospin's elevation to the premiership in May has turned Cintegabelle into a popular tourist attraction.

Sir David, 57, was appointed to the bench in 1994 after a long and lucrative career at the Bar, taking on cases which ranged across the political spectrum. As a specialist in local government and planning law he acted for Chris Patten, then the Environment Secretary, in High Court actions to cap the spending of local authorities. More recently, he took on "Swampy" and his fellow eco-warriors by putting the case for Manchester Airport's second runway at the public inquiry in 1994.

Sir David's position as a core member of the Blairs' legal circle was confirmed by his invitation to the Prime Minister's Downing Street reception at the end of last month.

The assemblage of people Mr Blair considered "modern, forward thinkers", such as Noel Gallagher, Michael Caine and Lenny Henry, also included Sir David and other legal friends built up during Mr Blair's time at the Bar. Several of those invited, including Peter Goldsmith QC and Anthony Scrivener QC, former chairmen of the Bar, are star performers, with earnings reputed to be close to seven figures.

Keene: hub of Blairs' legal inner circle

Republicans moan as Clinton uses new veto powers

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

BILL CLINTON struck three provisions from the new tax and budget Bills yesterday, the first time an American President has wielded a long-sought power called the line-item veto.

Mr Clinton said in the Oval Office that his gesture would send a signal that "the Washington rules have changed for good". Special interests would no longer be able to play the old game of slipping tax concessions into huge Bills in the hope that nobody would notice. The new authority was a powerful tool to protect taxpayers, he said.

However, Republicans who gave Mr Clinton the line-item veto power in a Bill passed last year complained. Newt Gingrich, the Republican House Speaker, accused the President of playing petty politics. He said Mr Clinton had broken the hard-fought bipartisan agreement on tax and spending cuts reached last week to balance the federal budget in five years.

None of the three items affected by the stroke of President Clinton's pen was a colossal saving by American budget standards. The biggest was to cancel a provision which allowed financial service companies to shelter income in foreign tax havens to avoid all US taxation. That decision will save the Government $317 million (£200 million) over five years.

The second closed a loophole in Medicaid spending for the poor and disabled that would have benefited New York State unfairly by $200 million. The third revoked a tax concession to food processing companies that sell their plants to farmers' co-operatives. It was aimed at Harold Simmons, a Texas multimillionaire and a generous contributor to the Republican Party, who would have avoided capital gains on the sale of his sugar-beet refinery to a co-operative.

The line-item veto in effect gives the President editorial power over money Bills to delete specific tax concessions or spending proposals that he dislikes without having to veto the entire legislation.

The line-item veto was promised in the Republicans' *Contract with America* and they passed the measure knowing that the first President to take advantage of it would be a Democrat.

For generations, Presidents have sought the line-item dispensation, which is available to many state Governors. When he signed the Bill into law, Mr Clinton said it would allow Presidents to fight special interest "boondoggles", tax loopholes and "pure pork" — bloated spending.

Mr Clinton's action yesterday is expected to provoke a legal challenge that will go all the way to the Supreme Court on the ground that the line-item veto undermines the constitutional authority of Congress to legislate taxes.

Under the law, Congress can restore any item cancelled by the President with a simple majority vote within a month. If the President vetoes it again, Congress can override him only with a two-thirds majority in both Houses.

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Dying Raj protected perverse princes

On eve of independence, British burnt the records kept by spies on maharajahs' secret sex lives

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

FIFTY years after being coaxed, cajoled or forced at gunpoint into joining India, hundreds of former princes and their offspring, their fiefdoms and privileges gone, are broken men. A few are powerful politicians. Some are hoteliers living in private wings of great palaces opened up for profit, members of a new entrepreneurial elite.

Their forebears' excesses hang over them in constant embarrassment. The Raj kept meticulous records of the maharajahs' sexual predilections, a record so explosive that two months before independence the files were burnt. History has thus been denied the finer details of the private lives of the world's most fantastic clutch of sybarites.

Tonnes of records were burnt on the orders of Sir Conrad Corfield, the Viceroy's political secretary, who spent his life representing the princes' interests. He left India furious at the treatment of the aristocracy as independence approached. The princes were denied what they most wanted: their own independence.

Clement Attlee's Government approved the destruction of the files, amassed over 150 years, because they lent themselves to blackmail. Jawaharlal Nehru, about to become independent India's first Prime Minister, protested at this destruction of historical records, but even as he did so fires were burning all over India, consuming the labours of generations of spies and informers. Some of the information in those files was part of well-informed gossip over chota pegs in that most vital institution of the Raj, the club. It became known, for example, that an early Nawab of Rampur bet fellow princes that he could deflower more virgins in a year than they could. Village girls were brought to his palace in flocks; they left without the gold nose ring that indicated a virgin.

> “The Maharajah of Alwar, a man of sadistic tastes, routinely used village boys as bait on his tiger shoots”

Sir Hari Singh, last Maharajah of Kashmir, was caught in bed with a woman in the Savoy Hotel, London, by a man masquerading as her husband. He was blackmailed out of a fortune. The woman's real husband eventually exposed the scandal, leading to a trial in which Sir Hari was known only as "Mr A". Thereafter his sexual exploits focused on orgies with young men in the safety of his palaces in Srinagar and Jammu.

The Nizam of Hyderabad, a keen photographer, produced a mountain of pornographic pictures by installing cameras in the walls and ceilings of his guest rooms.

The files burnt by Sir Conrad contained much information about the sadistic tastes of the Maharajah of Alwar, who routinely used village boys as bait on his tiger shoots. Anybody hoping to become an officer in his army had to participate in his orgies, which often ended with ritual killings. He became too obscene to tolerate and the British forced him into exile.

None has sunk to a lower ebb than the royal house of Oudh, which ruled over five million people from its capital, Lucknow, now the capital of Uttar Pradesh state. Princess Rajkumari Sakina Mahal and her brother, Prince Rajkumar Cyrus Riza, last of the line, live in a mouldering 13th-century hunting lodge in the Delhi woods, which bakes in summer, freezes in winter and leaks in the monsoon.

Their mother, Princess Wilayat Mahal, killed herself in 1993 by swallowing crushed diamonds. Her children live out their lives of squalor with a collection of large dogs that warn off intruders, although there is nothing left to steal. They share their abode with mice, chipmunks, birds and bats, and two anguished hermits waiting to die.

At the other end of the scale, Arvind Singh Mewar, Maharana of Udaipur, runs successful hotels, enabling him to maintain his magnificent palaces and retain the devotion that always fell naturally to the aristocracy, even the most perverse, given the belief that they descended from the gods.

The Prince of Wales hunts with a maharajah in 1921

A maharajah and the Prince of Wales, on a visit to India in 1922, perch on top of the royal elephant Hirazaz for a procession, accompanied by members of the royal suite. These scenes of royal and princely grandeur came to an abrupt end when India gained its independence in 1947

WORLD SUMMARY

Guard on Pakistani mosques

Karachi: Pakistan deployed paramilitary troops in Punjab province after sectarian violence led to the deaths of more than 50 people in the past five days (Zahid Hussain writes). The troops are guarding mosques and other religious buildings which have been the main targets of the strife.

The military move came after 18 Shia Muslims were killed on Saturday, allegedly by Sunni extremists seeking revenge for an attack on a mosque in Lahore last week.

Farm disaster

Amsterdam: The Netherlands' livestock industry has been thrown into chaos by the country's worst ever swine fever epidemic. More than five million pigs have been culled since February.

Germ war claim

Tokyo: More than 100 Chinese are suing the Japanese Government for allegedy killing hundreds of people by dropping plague-infected fleas on Zhejiang province in October 1940. *(AP)*

Bribes admitted

Seoul: Two South Korean businessmen said in court that millions of dollars they gave to a son of President Kim Young Sam were bribes. Kim Hyun Chul, 37, was arrested in May on corruption charges. *(AP)*

Mugabe mocked

Harare: President Mugabe was defied by 300 veterans of Zimbabwe's liberation war who jeered him at the Heroes Day event. The poor veterans are bitter over the affluence of a coterie of politicians.

Tomb unearthed

Beijing: Archaeologists have found a 6,000-year-old tomb at a building site near Zhengzhou in central China. It contains skeletal remains, pots, bowls, a bone needle and other artefacts. *(AP)*

Communist's killers tell of post-apartheid fears

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN PRETORIA

TWO convicted killers gave their reasons yesterday for murdering Chris Hani, the South African Communist leader, four years ago. They said they feared he would impose an oppressive Eastern bloc-style regime.

Janusz Walus and Clive Derby-Lewis, who are serving life jail terms for the murder on April 10, 1993, denied speculation that they were part of a larger conspiracy: they said they had acted alone.

The two said they were motivated by South Africa's most powerful rightwing group of the time, the Conservative Party, which they said was "at war" with liberation groups. Derby-Lewis, formerly a senior Conservative Party leader and member of parliament, and Walus both denied guilt during their trial, but have since applied for an amnesty from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The commission, which is investigating human rights abuses carried out during the apartheid era, has the power to grant amnesty to criminals who fully admit their guilt and can prove political motives.

In statements to the commission, Walus, a Polish immigrant, said that he and Derby-Lewis carried out the murder alone, disputing reports that it had been masterminded by the apartheid Government which was then still in power.

South African newspapers have also speculated that some of Hani's allies in the now-ruling African National Congress may have been involved. Hani, an enormously popular leader, was shot in the head outside his home near Johannesburg.

Walus said that he emigrated to South Africa because he believed it was "governed by Afrikaners who would never capitulate to communism, the latter ideology being by definition godless and thus anti-Christian". He said he feared the coming to power of Hani would plunge South Africa into a communism "of the same or worse type than that experienced in Poland".

The killers' evidence was delayed yesterday by legal argument over whether statements made by the two prisoners after their arrest should be made admissible. The killers say that the statements were irrelevant because they made them when detectives had deprived them of sleep and given them alcohol.

Envoy's Russian wife braced for tough Cambodian debut

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

PHNOM PENH is a long way from Nizhny Novgorod. But when Lena Edgar leaves her family in Russia to join her husband in Cambodia, she will take up a post unimaginable a decade ago. Not only is she the wife of Britain's youngest ambassador, but she is the only Russian to help her husband to represent Britain abroad.

In the wake of the Soviet Union's demise, the Foreign Office no longer puts a ban on diplomats marrying Russians. George Edgar, on temporary leave from the diplomatic service, was posted in Tajikistan with an international agency, and met Lena, a journalist; they married three years ago.

Now, at the age of 37, he has just arrived in Phnom Penh, where he has the hazardous job of keeping watch over the 300-strong British community, encouraging British business investment and discouraging footloose tourists.

Lena Edgar with husband George, Britain's man in Phnom Penh, and their daughter Anna

Mrs Edgar is not worried by a post in one of the world's most unstable countries. She and her husband will be virtually confined to the capital, as the countryside, apart from one or two areas, is still too dangerous for travel. But they will be well guarded, and Mrs Edgar will have time to bring up Anna, their daughter, and write the occasional piece for the BBC World Service. In two days of seminars and discussion from the British Spouses Association, she was given all the tips of old hands posted abroad: how to avoid trouble, ensure security and get by on basic provisions. Making friends in a new post is clearly vital: Mrs Edgar hopes to see a lot of the Russians who live in Cambodia.

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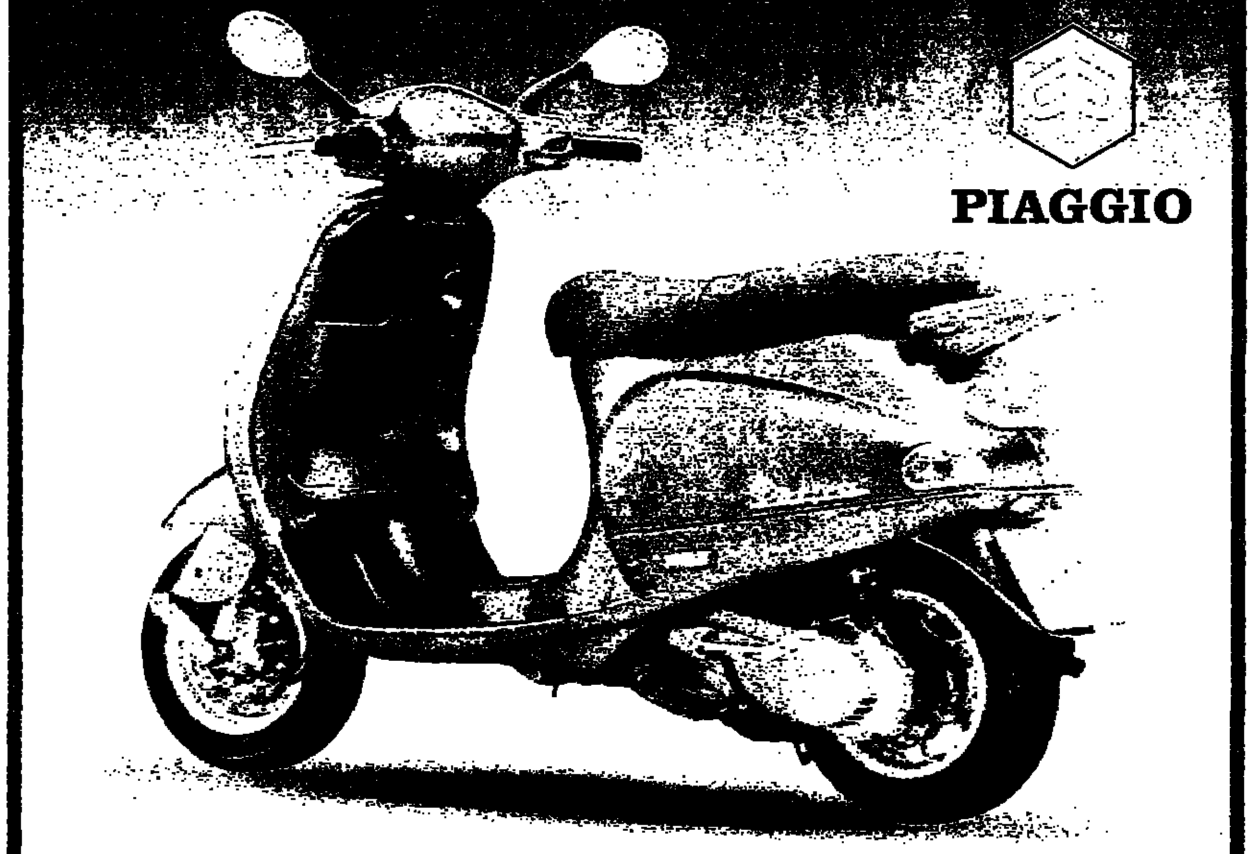
Win one of 7 scooters

PIAGGIO



This week *The Times* gives you the chance to win one of seven fabulous Piaggio scooters worth approximately £11,600 in total. Scooters are the 90s way to get about: fast, safe, ideal for getting through traffic jams, as environmentally friendly as motorised wheels get, and they cost only about three pence a mile to run.

The Vespa, a recognised style icon, was first created 50 years ago and more than 15 million have been sold worldwide. Today we feature the ET4 125cc fully automatic scooter — Piaggio's 50th anniversary model — which has an on the road price of £2,560.

It retains the essence of the original Vespa, with a steel monocoque body, but with modern styling and the latest technology. It has electric start, automatic clutch and gears, front disc brake and a built-in ignition immobiliser. It also comes with Piaggio's unique three-year unlimited mileage warranty. Other Piaggio scooter prizes on offer this week are: two Vespa ET2s; a Liberty; an NRG, a Zip SP *(Sport Production)* and a Hexagon 125cc.

HOW TO ENTER

Collect four tokens from *The Times* this week and send them with the entry form, appearing on Thursday, stating which scooter you would like to win. The closing date is Friday September 12, 1997. Readers must be over 16 to enter.

For more information on the Vespa range, call 0800 20 30 10

THE TIMES PIAGGIO TOKEN 3

THE TIMES

Lourdes: hysteria or hope?

Each year five million pilgrims go to Lourdes. **Sue Corrigan** discovers what they find when they arrive

Sheltering in the foothills of the majestic Pyrenees and split by a rushing turquoise river, Lourdes is a place of appealing natural beauty. Casual observers tend, however, to be appalled by what they see there, and by what the town appears to represent.

The isolated rural hamlet of 150 years ago has been transformed by religious fervour into a huge tourist centre attracting five million visitors each year. Lourdes has more hotels than any place in France other than Paris. It seems to have more tacky souvenir shops than any other place on earth, most selling the same horrible array of plastic icons and statues, mixed in with T-shirts, baseball caps and garish rosary beads.

Even worse is the distressing sight of thousands of sick, disabled, infirm, deformed and dying people, their wheelchairs and stretchers clogging the town's streets, churches and squares. An avalanche of human suffering and pain, almost unbearable to observe in its pathos.

It's hardly surprising, therefore, that Lourdes has something of an image problem, that it's regarded by many as a symbol of religiosity at its worst — deeply irrational, grossly commercialised and, ultimately, exploitative.

That, however, is the view from the outside. Like many judgments based solely on external appearances, it is quite misleading. From deep inside the heart of Lourdes, looking out, the view is very different.

I went there a few weeks ago as a pilgrim, one of 760 people travelling together from the Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton. My severely disabled son, Shane, aged 7, accompanied me. He was to join the vast throngs moving slowly through the town's narrow streets in his wheelchair. I to join the many hundreds of heartbroken mothers there.

JOHN SEXTON

A volunteer with a disabled pilgrim: "Lourdes helps make sense of pain and suffering. It is Christianity in action in its purest, most impressive, most life-changing form"

I wasn't sure before I left whether I was doing the right thing by going, and I wasn't sure what I'd find when I got there. All I knew was that I needed to make the journey, that Lourdes was somehow calling me, that I needed to find somewhere to take all the anger and pain and grief I've been struggling with for the past seven years, and that have at times threatened to overwhelm me.

My father, a doctor, thought I was crazy. My husband, who would never dream of going, was worried it might prove too distressing. Only my mother, who has been there herself, seemed to understand and approve. "I hope it brings you peace," she said.

I was glad of her support, but I wasn't sure what she meant. How could an exhausting journey with hundreds of strangers, many of them sick and in pain, on top of a week spent pushing a wheelchair through thousands of swarming tourists, possibly leave me feeling peaceful?

I was impelled to go far more by curiosity than hope. In large measure, I concluded, I was going because I'm a born nosy parker. I was intensely curious to see what a pilgrimage involved in the late 20th century. Unaware they still took place until I chanced to pick up a leaflet about Lourdes in Westminster Cathedral earlier this year, I had ignorantly assumed that mass pilgrimages were something people undertook in the Middle Ages, not nowadays.

Even more than feeling an inexplicable urge to go there with my own son, I was keen to find out what motivated so many other people to travel there. Why were they going? What did they hope to find?

The first inkling of what awaited my son and me at Lourdes occurred as soon as we boarded one of the numerous coaches converging on Dover from all over Sussex and southern Surrey. In a most un-English way, complete strangers smiled at me, introduced themselves and launched into animated and excited conversation. Shane and I were inundated with offers of help and small kindnesses. This pleasant, though rather unsettling, experience continued as we assembled at Dover, boarded the ferry for the short crossing to Calais and then tumbled on to a rattling old French train for the overnight trip to Lourdes.

Among our fellow pilgrims, I discovered, Shane and I were virtually the only ones making maiden voyages. With only a few exceptions, the people I spoke to were all returning to Lourdes, some for the ninth, tenth, even seventeenth and eighteenth time. Each person spoke as though he or she were going to an extraordinarily special place, a place quite unlike any other. I was more and more intrigued.

The specially reserved train we were travelling in — about half a mile long — included three ambulance cars, containing 120 beds. They were filled with sick and disabled patients, quite a few of them seriously ill. Several people were brought to the train on stretchers, tubes and intravenous drips held aloft by carers. There were also 35 nurses and ten doctors aboard the train, all volunteers paying to go to Lourdes to work flat out all week for no pay.

They were joined by 250 other helpers, many of them strapping teenagers — who also pay for the privilege of spending a week voluntarily helping the ill, the disabled, the infirm — and around 200 able pilgrims. The male volunteers are known as *brancardiers* (French for "stretcher-bearers"), the females as "handmaids".

These volunteers do anything and everything — lugging hundreds of suitcases and heavy boxes of medical equipment on and off trains, pushing wheelchairs, tending the sick, entertaining children and babysitting. Much of the equipment required for the journey must be obtained and packed in advance: 40 wheelchairs, oxygen tanks, heavy medical boxes, food and kitchen equipment for the train trip, blankets and bedding for the ambulance cars.

IMPACT

Lourdes — 'clearly a place where God is present'

Heading a small team that works year-round in an office in the West Sussex town of Storrington to organise the diocese's annual pilgrimage is Lady Sarah Clutton, a daughter of the 16th Duke of Norfolk. Lady Sarah was this year making her twenty-first consecutive pilgrimage, her twentieth as chief organiser. Along with the rest of her team, Lady Sarah works entirely on a voluntary basis.

It is the combination of several hundred volunteer helpers, joining several hundred sick, disabled and frail elderly travellers, that helps to elevate a pilgrimage to Lourdes far above any ordinary organised tour. Both groups benefit enormously.

"The volunteers work around the clock, they pay to go, and they come back overjoyed," says Father Tony Barry, one of 24 members of the clergy accompanying this year's pilgrimage, which was led by the Bishop of Arundel and Brighton.

"It helps young people express the idealism and yearning for a better world that so many of them feel, but which they rarely get a chance to put into practice. We find each year that volunteers, particularly the young, are flocking in ever greater numbers."

As for the sick and infirm and disabled, why do they make the arduous journey? Why is Lourdes such a magnet for them? Partly, the answer lies in Lourdes's deserved reputation as a place of remarkable cures and miraculous recoveries. Over the past 140 years, there have been thousands of medically inexplicable cures recorded by the Lourdes Medical Directorate, although only 64 have been formally recognised by the Church as miracles.

Beyond this, though, Lourdes is a place that helps to make sense of pain and suffering. It also helps to make sense of religion. It is Christianity in action in its purest, most impressive, most life-changing form. A number of people who have gone there as atheists or agnostics have been received into the Catholic Church as a result of their experiences. The sick and disabled are revered as the most precious of God's children, treated with a kindness and a generosity of spirit that makes them feel extraordinarily valued and worthwhile. Anyone in a wheelchair or on a stretcher enjoys absolute priority in Lourdes. "It is clearly a place where God is present," says Father Barry.

Seen and experienced in this light, Lourdes ceases to be a place of tacky shops and human misery, and instead becomes a place of shining goodness, idealism and joy. The shops, cafés, bars and hotels outside the walls of the shrine area — a vast sanctuary known as the Domaine — just fade away. They are there, but they are peripheral, unimportant. Inside the Domaine is everything that really matters, and in there, people behave quite differently from the way they tend to in normal, everyday life.

Though crowded throughout the pilgrimage season, which runs from Easter to the end of October, the Domaine is wondrously hushed and subdued. People gather quietly at the various churches, at the taps dispensing Lourdes's famous spring water and, most of all, at the grotto.

It was in this area that the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to a destitute and sickly little girl, Bernadette Soubirous, on 18 separate occasions between February and July 1858. Hymns and prayers in any one of a multitude of languages drift through the air like incense. Thousands of candles burn, night and day.

In a never-ending stream, even in the early hours of the morning, people queue in absolute silence to walk around the grotto's semi-circular rock wall. The rock itself, though rough to the touch outside the grotto, is smooth as marble within, polished by the millions of hands that have run along its surface over the past 140 years. Hundreds of people sit or kneel outside, deeply absorbed in thought and prayer. All that can be heard is the rushing water of the crystal-clear River Gave, which runs alongside.

Pilgrims wait patiently to enter the grotto or the nearby baths, where they immerse themselves in the spring water uncovered by Bernadette during one of the apparitions. But as soon as a sick or disabled person approaches in a wheelchair, the crowds part willingly and volunteer helpers usher that person to the very front with the kindest of smiles.

As I walked around with Shane, strangers approached me, squeezed my hands, and kissed my son's cheeks. Volunteers from the Arundel and Brighton pilgrimage were on hand night and day to help me in any way they could. My son's face began to shine with joy, and on our last night in Lourdes, he thanked me in his halting speech for having taken him there.

Afterwards, I talked at length with one person after another about what Lourdes meant to them, and was profoundly moved by each and every one's compassion and thoughtfulness.

"For me, the most miraculous thing about Lourdes is the way the sick people and the helpers all get such a lift from being with each other," said Dr Kevin Kelly, a Surrey GP and leader of the group's medical team. "This place calls forth extraordinary love and affection."

Before his first visit, Dr Kelly confesses, he was not impressed by what he had heard about Lourdes. "I thought that it was a lot of hysteria," he said. Now he was on his eighteenth pilgrimage.

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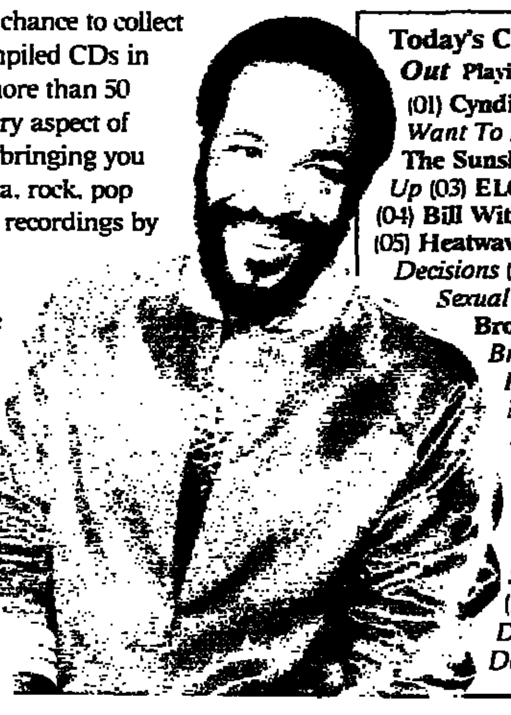

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Murder and the king of the club kids

When Michael Alig told his friends that he had killed his flatmate, they did nothing. **Jason Cowley** reports

TINA PAUL

Angel Melendez, left, wanted to be part of the scene, which included Alig dinner parties such as this one at the Bowery Bar. The feeling was that anything could happen and it often did

The notorious New York nightclub promoter Michael Alig had an unrivalled flair for self-promotion. When, in March last year, he told close friends that he had murdered his lover and flatmate, Angel Melendez, they did nothing about it, not even when Angel's legless torso washed up two months later in a wooden box on the shores of Staten Island.

Alig, 31, was the self-styled "king of the club kids", a *group of young, narcotised* nihilists who emerged in the mid-1980s to create a scene of unimaginable debauchery at Manhattan nightclubs. He is currently in the Manhattan Correctional Centre charged, together with another friend, known only as Freeze, with the murder of Angel. He has pleaded not guilty, but a documentary about him to be shown next week on Channel 4, *Party Monster*, features footage of him making one of *numerous drug-addled confession.* "Angel," he says, his eyes bloodshot and distant, "was one of those copycats we hate, so we killed *him. Yes, I killed* Angel." He pauses, peers uncertainly at the camera, then adds: "Oh dear, I shouldn't say things like that." The confession was filmed by the English director Fenton Bailey, co-producer of *Party Monster*, who has known Alig since they worked together in the late 1980s at Danceteria nightclub and is fascinated by the cult of the club kids.

Friends of Alig were divided over his confessions, some *suspecting that they were no* more than a publicity stunt. Others suspected, though, that there was a gruesome truth in his story. One of his closest friends, a pretty, blonde dancer called Gitsie, had left her family in Miami to become a club kid after watching a film on cable television about their excesses. She was appalled yet moved by Michael's confession. "I couldn't believe he could do it," she says. "Telling me what he'd done was the *hardest thing in the world for* him." As with others, Gitsie did not go to the police.

The complicity and silence of the club kids showed how removed they were from conventional society. To them, *what mattered was sensation*, the feeling that they existed, even though in distress. Possibly drawing inspiration from Boy George and other British neurotic outsiders of the early 1980s, they dressed outrageously. They flirted with fetishism and androgyny. Their image was ironically uncool, surreal, ridiculous. They thought nothing of dressing as a chicken or wearing women's clothes. "They looked like infantile freaks from outer *space," says Bailey.*

Twisted by drugs, the club kids delighted in obscenity and self-abuse, scourging anyone who had what they pejoratively called "a normal life". It was as if, in their delusion and *fervour, they felt they had* journeyed beyond good and evil, entering a blurry, guiltless realm of "pure freedom", where even the murder of Angel, a drug dealer, was permissible.

Bailey says: "It was amazing that no one went to the police. These kids had no moral compass at all. At first, I think, they didn't believe the murder was true, that Michael *was the killing kind; or perhaps* that it was a Post-Modern prank and he would host an "Angel returns" party. But the thing about Michael was that he was like a Peter Pan, creating his own reality."

Born in South Bend, Indiana, in 1966, Michael Alig grew up in a typical suburban American family. His mother, Elke Alig, remembers her son as quiet and shy at school: his homosexuality became apparent after he moved to New York to attend college in the mid-1980s. He was enraptured by the city: its vibrancy, its danger and possibility. His first job was as a bellboy at Danceteria. He progressed quickly and was soon working *as a promoter for Peter* Gatien, owner of fashionable clubs. Bailey says: "Michael was paid to create a scene with its own sense of chaos, glamour and excitement."

His notoriety spread after *he organised a series of "outlaw"* parties at McDonald's in Times Square and on the subway. The feeling grew that anything could happen — and it frequently did. At Disco 2000, he introduced a "hot body" competition, whereby clubbers stripped and debased themselves. "I couldn't believe what people would do to themselves for a few dollars," says Lahoma, a former drag queen who used to compere the competitions.

With reckless abandon, Alig played with images of disintegration and death. At one club night, clubbers posed as mutilated corpses in glass cases while others wallowed in vats of raw liver. Events became *ever more extreme and tawdry.* Walt Paper, a former assistant, says: "We were always testing ourselves to see how far we could go, to see how bloody or extreme or beautiful we could be."

Bailey believes drugs destroyed any sense of morality Alig once had. "When we first met, Michael was a quiet, unassuming kid, very different from the monster he became," he says. "His personality changed completely *when he started taking drugs;* they deinhibited him."

In *Party Monster*, there is footage of Alig in prison. Looking thin and wan, his hair receding, he discusses the behaviour of the club kids, *though not Angel, with camp* playfulness. That his quest for sensation took him to the edge of madness appears to matter less to him than that he embarked on the quest. He expresses no remorse, only a kind of self-admiring wonder.

"It isn't that he feels no remorse," Bailey disagrees. "It's just that he has difficulty expressing it. What happened to him was the inevitable result of his crazy lifestyle. He was riding a rollercoaster that *was out of control."*

● Party Monster *is on Monday on Channel 4 at 11.30pm*

BEST FRIEND'S STORY

With shaved eyebrows and a curved steel pin an inch and a half long through his chin, James St James, a former New York "club kid", describes his 12-year friendship with Michael Alig, who was a lowly worker at Danceteria, a Manhattan *nightclub, when St James first* met him. Alig is now in a New York jail charged with murdering Angel Melendez. St James has just finished a 70,000-word account of his time with Alig and was interviewed, sipping a screwdriver in a poolside lounger at the Argyle Hotel in Hollywood, where he now lives.

TINA PAUL

Michael Alig and James St James, who says: "There's no getting around his charisma"

I started the "club kid" movement in about 1985. I had been running around with a *Village Voice columnist* for about a year or so, going to parties and dressing up, doing the whole club thing, wearing tutus and tiaras and flowerpots on our heads.

When Michael Alig first moved to New York he worked at Danceteria clearing tables, but you could see that he was taking notes in his head. This was something that interested him, something he could use.

He saw what we were doing, and he saw a way to turn it into something profitable for him. At first he was a cloying little monster who used to chase us around, inviting us to awful parties that nobody wanted to go to. Pretty soon he went from having awful parties at awful clubs to having good parties at good clubs, and we got roped in. In March of 1987, *New York* magazine put Michael and the club kids on *the cover, and after that there* was no denying him.

Michael is capable of monstrous acts of evil but there's no getting round his charisma. Just to watch him work is *amazing. He rises and falls to* whatever level people approach him at. The club scene is mostly dizzy transvestites who can't string three words together, so it's rare to find someone with whom you can actually exchange ideas.

In about 1990, we started doing ketamine, a drug that we called Special K, used by vets as an animal tranquilliser. I was in a downward spiral and became deeply in debt and tried working as a prostitute in the meat-packing district for a month until the other "girls" kicked me out for bringing down the market rate. After that I left town and went to South Beach in Florida for about two years.

It was when I came back that I met Angel Melendez for the first time, but he was such a nasty person that he was never a part of the circle. He was a snide, rude, arrogant son of a bitch, a last-ditch drug dealer whom we used *after exhausting all the others.*

You wouldn't know it to talk to him, but judging from the way he dressed with those ridiculous wings and the platform shoes and the patent leather outfits, he wanted to be a player, a part of the scene.

Michael realised that Angel was the key to the candy factory, but he always despised him. Most drug dealers we came across would just give us whatever we wanted for free, but Angel wasn't like that. That's why it was so shocking that he would leave his drugs and money with Michael every night.

Michael told me he had killed Angel in March of 1996, a couple of weeks after it had happened. I was at a club near Times Square doing Special K *and I stumbled out and ended* up at Michael's house.

He said: "James, we have to talk. Let's make ourselves comfortable." He made tea and brought out scones, and he lined up nine bags of heroin and said: "Darling, have you noticed that somebody's missing?"

I said I hadn't. We had a sip of tea and a few scones and a bag of heroin and he said: "Angel. We killed him and we chopped him up and we threw *him in the river."* I knew immediately that he was telling the truth.

I was more anaesthetised by the shock than the heroin. It wasn't until the next day that I woke up screaming. I went and did two or three grams of Special K *and forgot* who I was or where I was, and I did that for about three months. That was how I dealt with it in the beginning.

Later, Michael and I would talk about it. I would shake him and make him tell the story over and over again in extreme detail. I would say: "When you chopped him up, what were you feeling? What was it like to saw the legs off? What kind of knife did you use?"

He would say he'd watched so many Roger Corman movies that he had just put himself in one of them. And he was on so many drugs that he was able to block himself off completely from reality. But the truth is Michael was a *monster from the get-go. It* was only a matter of time before he imploded.

There was a point where it looked as if he was going to get away with it. Throughout the summer of 1996 I stayed with him and tried to understand it from his point of view. I said nothing to the press, though God knows we were all bombarded by them the whole time. There were people chasing us wherever we went, and I kept my mouth shut.

The police obviously knew something had happened because reporters were calling them every day. They just didn't care. To them Angel was a drug-dealing gay immigrant; a piece of scum. He was also so despised by people on the scene that they took his murder as a minor thing.

When I heard that the girlfriend of Peter Gatien *(Disco 2000's owner)* had

the murder in a phone message from Michael about the body, I realised it was time to come forward. If I didn't I would be aiding and abetting, an accessory to *murder.*

Soon afterwards I heard from Johnny Melendez, Angel's brother. He'd heard rumours that something had happened to Angel and had been posting flyers around town with a picture of him wearing those ridiculous wings. There was a $4,000 (£2,531) reward. He just sobbed on the phone for a *couple of hours, saying he* wasn't out for revenge — God would take care of the culprits. He just wanted to know the truth so that he could tell his mother and give his brother a decent burial.

That was the first time that I had ever heard anyone be sad about Angel. In the club scene in New York people die of Aids and go into rehab all the time.

It wasn't like we were missing him, but now I realised something needed to be done. I called the *Village Voice* and said something has happened and you need to investigate it. The family needs to know Angel is dead.

I don't know what will happen now. Michael could get the electric chair or he could walk, but if he does I could not be friends with him. I would be so furious that he had pulled a Michael Alig on us all and had got away with *murder.*

LOVER'S STORY

A CLUB kid who became Michael Alig's lover and later a star disc jockey-recording artiste, "Keoki" reminisces in Hollywood about his time on the club kid scene.

Keoki: I'll always love him

I met Michael on my first night out in New York City. I *wasn't out looking for sex*, especially not from another guy, but the only person who approached me that night was Michael Alig.

He convinced me to go home with him. I had had a couple of drinks, so we hopped in a cab. I didn't know where the Bronx was and it turned out to be a $25 cab ride. I had the money, but I didn't know that he had had other plans.

He opened the door in front of his building and said "get out, run". So he grabbed me and we ran, and it was snowing I remember, and we both slipped on the ice and fell. We darted around this corner into the alley, and I remember we just *started* making out and kissing. That was the night I met Michael Alig.

I remember once my brother was visiting me and I came home from work and there was ketchup all over my elevator. I knew this had to be something to do with Michael. I walked into the house and they were both giggling and laughing. They said that someone had got *killed* in the elevator. They had been watching *Blood Feast*, which is one of his favourite movies.

It was hard to reach Michael for a couple of weeks in early 1996 and when I did he was very incoherent on the phone. I was living in Denver and hearing things, and I really didn't know if I could deal with it. He came to stay with me and would wake up in *cold sweats and say "I'm so* scared, I'm so scared".

To be quite honest, a year ago I had already been preparing to hear that Michael was dead. I was just waiting for someone to call me and tell me that Michael had overdosed.

Angel was the terror drug dealer who would come over and party with Michael and give him loads of drugs and then charge him for them or come by with two big, mean Puerto Rican guys to collect his debts.

In his own weird, twisted way Michael's got what he wanted, to be really, really famous: *super* famous. And no matter what happens to me, whether I end up a hobo or married with four *kids.* I'll always love him.

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Stephen Cox's superbly evocative sculptures have transformed a London gallery, inside and out, says **Richard Cork**

Dulwich enriched by touch of master

Inspired by catamarans riding a majestic wave, Stephen Cox's spectacular granite sculpture *Yatra* now sits in the Dulwich Gallery garden, with his *Kami* in the background

The richness of Dulwich Picture Gallery's Old Master collection, housed in Sir John Soane's exquisite building, needs no extra attractions to tempt visitors. But in recent years the gallery has embarked on an adventurous alliance with contemporary artists. Lucian Freud was the first to display his paintings there alongside Rubens. Now Stephen Cox has been invited to show his sculpture, in a more extensive show in the building and the garden as well.

It is a bold initiative for the recently appointed director, Desmond Shawe-Taylor. Plenty of artists would look out of place at Dulwich, where Soane's purged architecture combines with the Poussins and Rembrandts to offer a strongly defined context. But Cox is an inspired choice. His work is riddled with references to history, and he shares Poussin's passion for Mediterranean classical art. So the complex layers of meaning in Cox's exhibits take on an additional significance here, as well as showing how modern sculpture can be nourished by surprising links with the past.

Not that he approaches tradition in a slavish manner. Cox first made his reputation, during the 1970s, as a maker of plasterboard reliefs in tune with American Minimalism. Austere yet shimmering, these monumental works could hardly have seemed more abstract. But unlike Carl André or Don Judd, Cox already gave his art a pronounced spiritual dimension. And these reliefs were strangely unclassifiable, revealing the breadth of his interest in painting, sculpture and architecture.

Cox's involvement with the Italian Renaissance, where the various branches of the visual arts were seen in a far more unified way than they are today, therefore seems inevitable. He left England to work there in 1979, and his sculpture changed quickly. Carving now in stone, he produced circular reliefs of more modest dimensions. And one in particular, lent to Dulwich by the Tate, proclaimed the full extent of his new infatuation.

> ‘His work is riddled with allusions to history’

Its title, *We Must Always Turn South*, is a reply to the question asked by Adrian Stokes in his celebrated essay on *The Quattrocento*. Cox was enormously excited by the early writings of Stokes, another northern European who succumbed to the art of the Mediterranean. He shared Stokes's special love of Agostino di Duccio's 15th-century carvings in the Malatesta temple at Rimini. Within this extraordinary Renaissance building, Alberti's architecture achieves a potent union with the sinuous relief sculpture on its walls. *We Must Always Turn South* rejoices in a similar sense of awakening, filling the compact lump of Italian marble with a glowing oval reminiscent of an ascendant sun.

Not all the carvings of the early 1980s are so sumptuous. In *Tondo: Lunar Influences to Agostino di Duccio*, the use of colour is more restrained to suit its paler inspiration. But the smoothness of the central circle is contrasted with the rougher surface of the stone undulating around its edges. And by 1983 these rippling forms had taken on a flamboyant life of their own.

Baroque theatricality began to replace the earlier simplicity. Cox's work became more sensual, too. In *Tondo: Sorgente* the Peperino stone swells into plump breasts. And by this time he was also prepared to work on a more dramatic scale. *Square*, redolent of Bernini's architecture in Rome, fills its wall with aplomb. Cox handles the six travertine slabs like a painter, suffusing them with restrained colour. But he also reveals how they interact with the wall: the vertical white spaces between the slabs become part of the piece.

Elsewhere in this commanding room, Cox's work explores a new and more tragic mood. *Deposition I* presents us with tantalising fragments of the biblical scene, all the more mournful for being broken into pieces that can never be fitted together again. But the most harrowing exhibit is *Cloaca Maxima*, inspired by the brutal butchery of St Sebastian after Diocletian's archers had pierced him with arrows. His body was dismembered before being thrown into the Roman sewer, and Cox reassembles segments of the saint's limbs in a whirling formation, at once melancholy and sensual.

The preoccupation with death did not last long. With hindsight, we can see how it prophesied the end of Cox's love affair with Italy. In 1985, when representing Britain at the Indian Triennale, he began to immerse himself in the art of the sub-continent. Fascinated by the fusion of the sexual and the spiritual in so many Indian images he decided to work there.

But the break with Italy was neither sudden nor complete. One of the first works he made in India, *Etruscan*, took as its source a medieval palazzo in Viterbo. There, high up on the façade, two enlarged eyes gazing from a shield had intrigued Cox. He decided to produce a carving inspired by the organs of the senses. And in *Etruscan II*, each of the four pieces of Black Indian granite highlights a different part of the human face. The ears, eyes, lips and nose are splashed with oil. Its dark stains emphasise the organs with almost religious solemnity, reflecting Cox's growing interest in the role played by sculpture in Indian ritual.

In subsequent work, often on a large scale, he further explored how we try to comprehend our place in the Universe through the senses. Hinduism influenced him in this enterprise; and the granite group called *Organs of Action*, positioned outdoors at Dulwich, is his most monolithic expression of the theme. The oil-splashed boulders look thoroughly at home here. And the opening-up of the rest of the gallery's garden to his other carvings is a revelation.

This superb setting deserves to become one of the prime showcases for open-air sculpture exhibitions in London. It certainly proves ideal for Cox's larger pieces, offering a generous space framed by trees for his spectacular granite *Yatra*, inspired by catamarans riding a majestic wave.

> ‘A strong spiritual impulse is found in his sculpture’

More intimate locations are provided as well. Soane's architecture, with its mysterious Mausoleum, acts as a potent backdrop for the 15-ton *Interior Space*. For this magisterial piece, with its slit-like opening leading to a dark interior, stems from Cox's visit to the tombs of Apis bulls near the Sakkara pyramids.

In recent years, Egypt has become his latest land of pilgrimage and nourishment. Since his first visit there in 1989 he has worked a great deal with the imperial porphyry, a material once regarded as the exclusive preserve of the conquering Roman Emperor. An expedition to the quarry at Mons Porphyrites in the Eastern Mountains of Egypt impressed Cox profoundly, and led to a sequence of works using this voluptuous yet dauntingly hard material.

His love of porphyry is most movingly conveyed inside Soane's Mausoleum. A less sensitive artist might easily have disrupted the mood of reverence within this powerful chamber. But by restricting himself to a few small carvings, placed modestly round the circular floor, Cox succeeds in enhancing the sombre, memorial aura.

It helped me to understand the spiritual impulse running through all Cox's work. Despite the variety of styles and materials he has adopted, a consistent desire to reach beyond everyday experience towards a heightened consciousness gives his sculpture unexpected unity. I cannot imagine a contemporary sculptor more suited to the heart of Soane's building, where silence takes on an eloquence of its own.

● *Stephen Cox is at Dulwich Picture Gallery, College Rd, London SE21 (0181-693 5254) until Sept 28*

AROUND THE GALLERIES

☐ **Arman**'s current work at Mayor Gallery is probably not altogether different from that which he showed in Paris in 1960. Familiar objects are stacked on top of each other, arranged into two dimensional pictorial relation with each other. The method of display, however, seems to carry the notion of the "found" object no further. Display boxes or cabinets have been hastily put together out of sheet metal to make an actual edge or frame for the aesthetic pile inside.

The best is *Ironic Pressing*, a line of shirts just back from the laundry in plastic wrappers, hung in a metal box "wardrobe" over a heap of irons. Saws cut through the top of another cabinet in a bowing arrangement, while typing paper and collected or accumulated typewriters are displayed in an old-fashioned shop-window piece.

Accumulation in Relation, Mayor Gallery, 22a Cork Street, London W1 (0171-734 3558), until August 27

☐ **Stuart Cumberland**'s work shifts and changes with a light touch. For *Still Things*, a show he shares with **Phill Allen** at the Approach, he has painted good but awkward paintings, and whittled apparently real pencils out of wood in order to provide a series of "under-important" weightless contributions. On the other side of the room, Allen's dodgem cars look heavy, with much cardboard and paint used to embellish the pretence. Here the boy's toy has been reinvented to play a part almost more physical in reality than the initial model. Cumberland's still-life paintings, however, sit completely confident in their own contemporary halfway house.

The Approach, 1st Floor, 47 Approach Road, London E2 (0181-983 3878), until Sunday

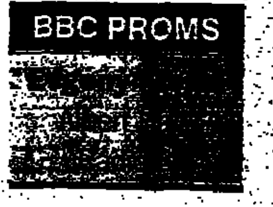
☐ **Stephen Elson**'s strange metallic, riveted globe hangs from the ceiling just inside the door at *Avatars*, Entwistle's current show. It spins or turns every now and then like a spatial prop from *Bladerunner*. **Jun Hasegawa**'s line-up of cut-out cartoon figures shows "portraits" of affable and amenable young men smiling as if on their way to the gym. This highly bland painting drops smoothly across the flat surface, and yet Hasegawa seems caught in a perpetual warp or groove, questioning the extent to which these people might represent anything at all. **Paul Finnegan**'s distorted photographs show faces elongated and extended by a trick of the lens. Objects are blended into the surface to merge with human skin which pulls and distorts the outcome.

Entwistle, 6 Cork Street London W1 (0171-734 6440), until Saturday

SACHA CRADDOCK

Plumbing the piano shallows

BBC PROMS



HISTORY was made at the Proms on Sunday afternoon when **Evgeny Kissin** became the first performer to give a full-length solo recital. Alas, the big event served only to confirm that the 25-year-old Kissin, who plays with phenomenal beauty of tone and possesses one of the most dazzling pianistic techniques today, has not developed from the shallow musical insights of his prodigy years.

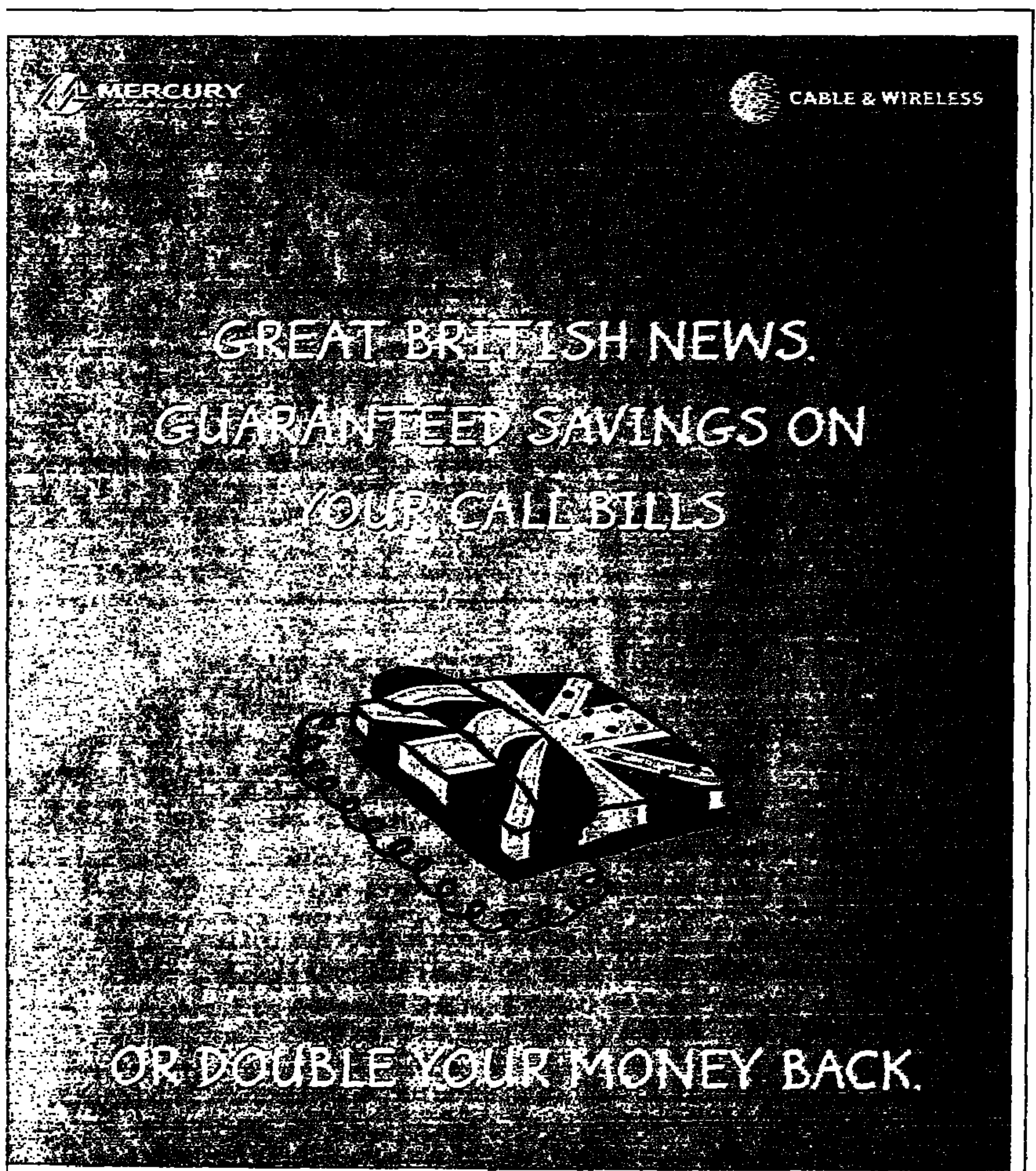
Putting the piano on a raised platform in the middle of the arena made him look all the more like a circus act. Lapping up the applause, he trotted up and down like a toy soldier, and gave in to a demanding faction of the audience who kept him going for 40 minutes of encores in a sweltering hall.

Ah, the programme. In Liszt he was sensational, playing the virtuoso Hungarian Rhapsody No 12 with all the freedom of a gypsy performance. The famous *Liebestraum* was built to a grand climax. But music that goes deeper was more problematic. There was some drama in the first movement of Haydn's Sonata No 52 in E flat, and its Adagio went dreamily, but there is more to the Presto than the music-box pianism we heard. His Chopin, two Nocturnes and the Sonata No 3, was perfectly balanced but cold and unemotional.

John Eliot Gardiner, always a searching musician, supplied the corrective in his evening Prom with the **Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique and the Monteverdi Choir**. His first half consisted of four minor choral works by Schubert, sacred and secular, for a variety of ensembles and voices. He conducted all with conviction. The two more earnest works probably deserve their neglect, but the lovely *Stabat Mater* and serene Psalm 23, both richly sung, were a pleasure to hear.

Whether out of solidarity with the Promenaders or to show their seriousness, the strings stood throughout Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. Raspy brass and characterful winds are not new in this music, but there were plenty of revelations: this was the first performance of Jonathan Del Mar's cleaned-up version of the text, and the more noticeable corrections were very startling. Most of them come in the finale, where the Turkish March went with exhilarating brio. Indeed, Gardiner gave the whole movement real propulsion, but was less convincing in the Adagio, which lacked spirituality. Luba Orgonasova, Bernarda Fink, Gordon Gietz and Bryn Terfel made an excellent quartet of soloists.

JOHN ALLISON



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Full Marx for laughter

THEATRE

[illegible]

Gorky called Nikolai Erdman "our new Gogol". His *Suicide* made the severe Stanislavsky laugh so much he had to beg the author to stop reading it aloud, "or my heart couldn't have stood the strain". But then Stalin flipped through the play, his apparatchiks banned it, and, though nobody knows his precise fate, Erdman went the way of Babel, Schwarz and a generation of gifted dramatists. The robust and often hilarious production with which that fine Edinburgh company, Communicado, launches this year's Fringe makes it amply clear what a loss to the theatre he was.

Gogol's satiric influence is surely somewhere behind the tale of Semyon, the unemployed Muscovite whose last hope, earning mega-roubles by learning to play the tuba, inevitably collapses. The word gets about that he proposes to kill himself, whereupon an eccentric cross-section of Russians turns up in his pokey flat, each asking him to leave behind a suicide note announcing that he is making a public gesture on behalf of some faction or cause. The most importunate is the representative of "the intelligentsia" who feels he and his ilk are being silenced by the authorities and wants Semyon to awaken the sleeping conscience of society".

But the play was slated for production in 1932, when Uncle Joe's massive rump was flattening the Soviet theatre. Indeed, it is surprising that Erdman hoped to get away with as much as he did, for the play has sharp things to say about censorship, bureaucracy, corruption and the failure of socialism to bring ordinary people "a quiet life and a decent income". Its cheekiest and, *in retrospect, most dangerous* moments come when Conleth Hill's Semyon drunkenly phones the Kremlin to tell "the man at the top" he no longer believes in Marx; but the funniest belong to Peter Grimes as the self-styled voice of the Soviet postal workers.

Caught peeking at a woman through a keyhole, his excuse is that he is "looking at her from a Marxist point of view". Writing to *Pravda* to complain about an oversexed neighbour, he signs himself "35,000 postmen", earnestly explaining that this is his pen name. Grimes had me in stitches, but then so did Hill's Semyon, with his baffled face, crumpled shoulders and manic desperation. The scene in which he keeps trying and failing to shoot himself ("I'll count to five, no ten, no 20") out-Ayckbourns Ayckbourn both in the laughter it generates and in the darkness behind it.

I doubt if anything in Edinburgh this year will match Erdman and his current director, Gerry Mulgrew, for quirky inventiveness. Stephanie McKnight's **The Cub** doesn't begin to do so, despite an opening in which a sinister, bestockinged figure breaks into a kitchen, eats some pudding, threatens the householder with a knife — and is then revealed as her son. What then occurs is an incestuous encounter between Linda Marlowe as the half-unwilling mum ("there are other kinds of love, Lucas, love of mankind") and her wild, wayward boy. But the complications that follow lack plausibility, depth, interest or, as far as I could see, point. By Traverse standards, a flimsy piece.

DONALD COOPER

Sons and mothers: Benedick Bates as Lucas and Linda Marlowe as Reb in *The Cub*

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

CONCERT

First night thriller

[illegible]

THE failure of *The Rite of Spring* was a positive relief. After such a moving interpretation of Bartók's rarely heard but balefully inspired *Four Pieces*, Op 12, and such a thrilling account of Boulez's *Notations I-IV*, an authentically shattering *Rite of Spring* would have been too much for the opening concert (sponsored by Scottish & Newcastle) of a busy festival.

It was not a bad performance of *The Rite of Spring* — Pierre Boulez is surely incapable of delivering any such thing — and for the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra, which will be performing the work no fewer than six times on its present tour of the top European festivals (including the BBC Proms tonight), it was surely a technical revelation. But, at the end of an eventful concert, the feeling was that Boulez has conducted it at least once too often. While his attention to details of rhythm and colour was as precise as ever, he seemed unable or unwilling to summon the energy required to invest it with the savagery commonly but not inappropriately associated with it.

Apart from the suddenly induced intensity in the middle of the Menuet and an interesting treatment of the central section of the Rigaudon, *Le Tombeau de Couperin* was disappointing too. Indeed, in comparison with what he did with the Bartók, Boulez made Ravel sound almost trivial. There must be something in him that identifies with the nausea — which is not too strong a word after this performance — at the heart of the *Four Pieces*.

Written for the most part in 1912, though not orchestrated until ten years later, that Bartók score is no less expressive of the contemporary malaise than *The Rite of Spring*. And the conductor did not fail to register the fact. There are lovely lyrical moments in the *Four Pieces*, particularly in the Prelude, but the streetwise violence of the Scherzo, the sense of loss in the Intermezzo (where the performance fumbled slightly) and the despair of the *Marcia funebre* were so precisely projected as to hit on every nerve.

The extraordinary thing about this is that the same kind of feeling was communicated by the first of Boulez's own *Notations*. Orchestral reworkings of piano pieces he wrote more than 50 years ago, they clearly reveal the Messiaen and the Stravinsky influences the composer was assimilating at the time: the last in this particular selection sounded like a simultaneous compression of *Turangalila* and *The Rite of Spring*. But, under the composer's direction, the young musicians discovered more than the mere externals, distractingly and dazzlingly brilliant in sound though they are. The audience was, at this point, ecstatic.

GERALD LARNER

FRINGE COMEDY

Who's the joker?

NOT content with saturating the Fringe with comedy, the comedians are taking over the theatre. Irish stand-up **Ed Byrne** prefaces his solo show with *The Act* (Gilded Ballroom). Written with and co-starring **Brendan Burns**, *The Act* follows two comedians sharing a flat during the Fringe. The play kicks off like a tired lager, spliff and flatmate-scum sitcom, but as the pair's careers diverge it begins to examine the nature of comedy and comedians.

Burns is fascinating as the raucous Aussie agitator choosing between success and integrity, but Byrne is less convincing as the anodyne Perrier nominee Edward Byron. His characterisation takes on a disturbing slant when seen in tandem with his stand-up show, *Psychobabble*. In *The Act*, the fictional Edward Byron appears in an outsized suit doing "Kids' TV is all about drugs/Women — I don't understand them!" material. In *Psychobabble* the real Ed Byrne likewise appears in an outsized suit. One performance is an ironic attack on crowd-pleasing commercialism, the other is part of a heavyweight bid for Perrier eligibility. Go figure.

Alone, Byrne plays his audience beautifully, and his wry, confessional stand-up set is very funny. He applies Freud to his life, and uses his life experiences to rubbish psychoanalysis. Oedipus, Jocasta and Co all get short shrift, and his segues into film and music are pleasantly evil.

So prolific are **Stewart Lee** and **Richard Herring** that they almost deserve an independent festival annex. Their double act, *This Morning with Richard not Judy II* (Pleasance), is a possessed chat show, complete with proper guests and piano accompaniment. Tickets are sold by auction, from 1p to £8, and occasionally reimbursed during a series of grotesque, money-grubbing competitions. The show is largely unscripted, but despite an early time slot, the audience is maintained in a state of almost perpetual hysteria. Lee and Herring have an electric complicity, and their urge to push comedy as far as possible has not been eased by the demon television.

Of the two it is Lee who makes the really experimental pitch. He is deliciously misanthropic: his tragedy is that the audience never quite keeps up with his intertextual contortions. Customers for *King Dong vs Moby Dick* (Pleasance) are handed a copy of Melville's novel on arrival. Lee runs the hour like a sardonic seminar tutor, and an apparent jumble of often low-key material is teased into a surprisingly satisfying dénouement.

Central to Herring's *Excavating Rita* (Pleasance) is an assured coming-of-age comedy. Ian Snell is an obnoxious literary-minded 18-year-old who joins an archaeological dig. Love, death and boorish masculinity each affect his Beckett-sodden mind, before he leaves for university, an only slightly changed man. The subtly shifting group dynamics are beautifully handled.

HETTIE JUDAH

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

EDINBURGH

Today's events at the **Edinburgh International Festival** include the Royal Opera's concert version of the original 1847 version of Verdi's **Macbeth**, with Anthony Michaels-Moore in the title role (Edinburgh Festival; tonight, Friday and Saturday, 7.15pm).

Meanwhile, the American choreographer **Twyla Tharp** presents three exciting new pieces at the Edinburgh Playhouse (tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm). At the King's Theatre (tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm; mat Thurs, 2.30pm), the Australian **Bangarra Dance Theatre** makes its British debut with the world premiere of *Fern*, a powerful fusion of dance, music and song by the Aboriginal choreographer Stephen Page. **Blinded by Love** (*Cegada de Amor*) — an anarchic soap opera mixing theatre, film, music and dance — is performed by La Cubana, from Barcelona, at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre (8pm, until August 23).

Also, the **Skampa Quartet** performs at the Queen's Hall (11am), and the pianist András Schiff joins the **Budapest Festival Orchestra** in its Festival debut at the Usher Hall (8pm).
Festival box office (0131-473 2000)

Alternatively, Divine Comedy and Michael Nyman launch the first **FLUX Edinburgh New Music Festival** at the Jaffa Cake (0131-557 8969/226 5138). Featured acts at FLUX include Babybird, a collaboration between Andy Sheppard and Jazz Jamaica, Tindersticks, and new Scottish bands such as Mogwai and Urusei Yatsura.

Fringe events include Red Shift Theatre Company's contemporary interpretation of **Les Misérables** at the Fringe Club (Venue 2, 4pm, 0131-226 5138). **Margarita Pracatan** performs at the Palladium (Venue 26, 11pm) and the music from director Quentin Tarantino's cult movies is brought to life by the **Tarantinos** (Pleasance, Venue 33, 12.50am). The **Edinburgh University Footlights** perform *Birth of a Man* — at Southside (Venue 82, 10.15pm) and **Rodney Bewes** presents his solo adaptation of Jerome K. Jerome's *Three Men in a Boat* (Assembly Rooms, Venue 3, 4pm).
Fringe box office (0131-226 5138 tickets; 0131-226 5257 information)

LONDON

BBC PROMS: At 7pm, Pierre Boulez conducts the **Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra** in Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin* and Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*. Boulez's own *Notations I-IV* are mirrored by Bartók's rarely heard *Four Pieces*. At 10pm, John Lubbock conducts the **Orchestra of St John's, Smith Square** in the British premiere of Lou Harrison's new *Fast Suite for Strings* and Barber's *Adagio for Strings*. Rolf Hind joins the orchestra for the world premiere of Stephen Montague's Concerto for piano and orchestra, and Thomas Adès takes part in Colin McPhee's Toccata for two pianos and orchestra, *Tabuh-tabuhan*.
Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212) ♿

EUGENE ONEGIN: Opera Holland Park performs Tchaikovsky's opera of love and honour among the Russian aristocracy — the final production of the 1997 season. Sung in English.
Holland Park, Holland Park, W8 (0171-602 7856). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, and August 18-23, 7.30pm; mat Sat (August 16), 2.30pm ♿

Twyla Tharp presents three dance pieces at Edinburgh

ELSEWHERE

GUILDFORD: Dora Bryan, Twiggy Lawson, Belinda Lang and Steve Pacey star in Noël Coward's frolicsome farce, **Blithe Spirit**. Tim Luscombe directs.
Yvonne Arnaud, Millbrook (01483 440000). Tonight-Thurs, 7.45pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm. Until August 16 ♿

STRATFORD: The annual **RSC Fringe Festival** provides an opportunity for the Royal Shakespeare Company to experiment with new writing and adaptations and to rework established classics. Highlights include Susannah York's new writing workshop, a revival of Shakespeare's lost *Edmund Ironside*, barge/street theatre and riverside Indonesian shadow puppets.
Fringe Festival box office (01789 294671). Until August 22.

LONDON GALLERIES

The Ice House: New Work — Lyn Kitching (0171-603 1123) **National**: Seurat and the Bathers (0171-747 2885) **Rebecca Hossack**: Songlines XVI, Injalak, X-Ray Art Show (0171-436 4899) **Tate**: Henry Tate's Gift: A Centenary Celebration (0171-887 8000)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
▨ **Some seats available**
☐ **Seats at all prices**

■ **ART**: Henry Goodman, Roger Allam and Stanley Townsend in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white painting.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. Until October 4

■ **CLOSER**: In Patrick Marber's new play, directed by himself, Sally Dexter and Liza Walker, Ciarán Hinds and Clive Owen play strangers who fall romantically but cruelly in love.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm; mat Tue, 2.30pm. In rep

☐ **ELVIS — THE MUSICAL**: Three actor-singers take us through the life of the King, with Michael Dimitri playing the mature Elvis. Strictly for fans.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri and Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm. Until September 6

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**: Return of Peter Hall's enjoyable production, brimful of deceptions. Starring Martin Shaw and Simon Ward, and Kate O'Mara as the suave troublemaker.
Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. Until October 11

☐ **KISS ME KATE**: The New Shakespeare Company brush up their Shakespeare in Cole Porter's witty, tune-packed musical. Ian Talbot directs Louise Gold, Issy van Randwyck and Andrew C. Wadsworth.
Open Air, Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431). Tonight, 8pm. In rep

☐ **THE MYSTERIOUS MR LOVE**: New play by Karoline Leach, set in 1912 in a hotel at Weston-super-Mare, directed by Bob Tomson. Paul Nicholas plays a confidence trickster and Susan Penhaligon a lovelorn spinster.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm

☐ **PYGMALION**: Amusing, unshowy revival with Roy Marsden, Michael Elphick and newcomer Carli Morris.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4.30pm

☐ **THE SEAGULL**: After its national tour, Stephen Unwin's production arrives in London. Cheryl Campbell plays Arkadina, Joanna Roth is Nina.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens August 14, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 4pm. Until September 6.

☐ **SKYLIGHT**: Bill Nighy and Stella Gonet in David Hare's witty and cogent play showing two contemporary social moralities at odds. Directed by Richard Eyre.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

▨ **WAITING FOR GODOT**: Peter Hall, who directed the British premiere in 1955, directs Alan Howard and Ben Kingsley in a revival of Beckett's first and finest drama.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616). Tonight, 7.30pm. In rep.

☐ **THE WOOD DEMON**: Good actors in a generally disappointing revival of Chekhov's first version of *Uncle Vanya*.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until October 11

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) ☐ **Buddy**: Strand (0171-930 8800) ▨ **Grease**: Cambridge (0171-494 5080) ☐ **An Inspector Calls**: Garrick (0171-494 5085) ☐ **Jesus Christ Superstar**: Lyceum (0171-656 1807) ☐ **Martin Guerre**: Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) ■ **Les Misérables**: Palace (0171-434 0909) ▨ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (0171-836 1443) ☐ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **BEAN** (PG): Rowan Atkinson's bumbler is let loose in LA. Jokes galore; some sentiment, no subtlety. With Peter MacNicol and (briefly) Burt Reynolds.
ABCs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Plaza** (0990-888 990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990-888 990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **GROSSE POINTE BLANK** (15): Troubled hit man hits his class reunion. Hip comedy with John Cusack, Minnie Driver and Dan Aykroyd. Director, George Armitage.
Curzon West End (0171-369 1722) **Gate Notting Hill** (0171-727 4043) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen on the Hill** (0171-435 3366) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343) **Watermans** (0181-568 1176)

MA VIE SEXUELLE (15): Absorbing epic about a dithering French intellectual (the engaging Mathieu Amalric).
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

ROSEANNA'S GRAVE (12): Romantic comedy set in Italy, with dark touches and minor charms, featuring Jean Reno and Mercedes Ruehl.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Haymarket** (0181-315 4212) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Warner West End** (0171-437 4343)

TIERRA (18): A fumigator at large in the Spanish vineyards. All style, little content, from Basque director Julio Medem.
ABC Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Everyman** (0171-435 1525) **Metro** (0171-437 0757)

CURRENT

◆ **THE FIFTH ELEMENT** (PG): Flabby sci-fi epic from Luc Besson, with Bruce Willis as the taxi-driver who might save the world.
Odeon Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) **Virgin Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343) **Watermans** (0181-568 1176)

◆ **MEN IN BLACK** (PG): Hip blockbuster about aliens in Manhattan, with Tommy Lee Jones and Will Smith. Director, Barry Sonnenfeld.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Notting Hill Coronet** ♿ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Leicester Square** (0181-315 4215) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

◆ **MURDER AT 1600** (15): Wesley Snipes solves a White House murder. Silly thriller, with Diane Lane.
Virgin Trocadero ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **ONE FINE DAY** (15): Two single parents juggle kids and careers. Beguiling comedy with George Clooney and Michelle Pfeiffer. Director, Michael Hoffman.
Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

PALOOKAVILLE (15): Alan Taylor's endearing movie about would-be crooks, with William Forsythe, Vincent Gallo and Adam Trese.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Metro** (0171-437 0757) **Odeon Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Virgin Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

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What goes up may just stay up

Anatole Kaletsky says shares and sterling can defy gravity

What goes up must come down. This well known principle of terrestrial physics is often invoked by exasperated businessmen and central bankers praying for the end of an unwelcome currency trend, such as the recent advance of sterling. It is also a favourite of frustrated investors trying to predict the collapse of some great bull market on which they have missed out.

Accordingly, the phrase was on many lips in the City last Friday as two of the most powerful and misinterpreted financial trends of the decade — the great bull market on Wall Street and the recent surge of the pound — seemed suddenly to go into reverse.

Many of the financiers, policymakers and businessmen who had been wrongfooted by both these powerful financial moves must have spent the weekend in joyful contemplation of the laws of financial gravity as they watched the pound fall by ten pfennigs and the Dow Jones industrial average tumble by 150 points on Friday night. But their relief was short-lived. By yesterday afternoon both the pound and the global stock markets seemed to forget about gravity.

Both seemed to hit a plateau, showing no inclination to continue their descent back to earth.

It is, of course, impossible to conclude much from a single day's trading in financial markets. But one lesson, which laymen often forget to their great cost, can be drawn: there is no such thing as financial gravity: in these markets what goes up does *not* necessarily come down.

Experience, in fact, suggests that long-running trends in financial markets are much more likely to continue than to go into reverse.

It is therefore with caution and humility that anyone should defy the kind of powerful trends seen in the global stock market and the British foreign exchanges in the past year or two.

Even Alan Greenspan, the Chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board and unquestionably the world's most powerful financier, was reminded of his impotence against financial momentum last December, when he warned that the bull market on Wall Street was driven by "irrational exuberance" and predicted that global share prices might soon go into reverse. Since his speech, shares have advanced by a further 25 per cent.

The intriguing question we face in Britain is whether the Bank of England will prove any more accurate than Mr Greenspan in its suggestion last Thursday that the upward trend in sterling is about to go into reverse.

My hunch, for what it is worth, is that Mr Greenspan may finally be vindicated, but the Bank, to the chagrin of British manufacturers and exporters, is likely to be proved wrong. The worldwide bull market in shares may be about to suffer a serious setback, but the powerful advance of sterling is not yet over and last week's sharp decline is more likely to create the conditions for another big upward thrust than to presage a return to the days of the cheap pound.

The reasons for expecting a big fall in share prices have been widely discussed by many market commentators for the past three years — plenty of analysts have, in fact, been predicting a crash from almost the day the bull market started in January 1995. Until recently, however, bearish factors such as very low dividends and high share valuations have been far outweighed by the excellent prospects for company profits, inflation and economic growth. But with the world economic recovery, maturing shares no longer seem as cheap as they clearly were in 1995 and 1996. In addition, investors seem to have gradually forgotten the fears of recession, inflation and financial crisis that have haunted them since the present phase of the bull market began.

Ironically, Mr Greenspan's own conversion two weeks ago to the view the bull market may, after all, be justified by "basic improvements in the long-term efficiency of our economy" has been one of the forces pushing sentiment on Wall Street across the invisible boundary between soundly based confidence and dangerous complacency.

For two years, stock markets have been happily climbing what traders call "the wall of worry". The danger now is that they are about to start sliding down "the slope of hope". When investors are worried, share prices move higher every time something happens to offer them reassurance or new hope. But when markets are over hopeful, any disappointment can trigger a steep fall.

Long-term trends are more likely to continue than to go into reverse

The conditions in the sterling exchanges are a mirror image of those on Wall Street. Fundamental economic conditions remain extremely bullish for the pound: the world's highest interest rates, rapid growth, a still-strong balance of payments and an independent central bank determined to prove its mettle. Yet almost all of the players in the foreign exchange market remain deeply sceptical. Politicians talk privately of seeing the pound down to DM2.50. The Bank might not go so far, but makes no secret of its desire for a weaker pound. Industrialists and investors describe the exchange rate as uncompetitive and overvalued. Yet Britain's trade remains in balance and many exporting companies remain profitable, albeit less so than they were a year ago.

Eventually the strong pound will probably hit exporters and may even cause a recession or a balance of payments crisis. But until there is clear evidence of such problems, the market is likely to stick to what it knows how to do best: it will climb a wall of worry and follow the trend. And in the case of sterling, the trend unfortunately still points up.

We are morbidly fascinated by grisly entertainment — but most of us couldn't cope with a nosebleed

Peering round the door of the morgue

Libby Purves

A thousand years from now, when historians portray the closing years of our millennium, I hope they do not get us wrong. To assist any highly evolved descendant of mine who may be downloading this in a virtual library (or, possibly, digging with spade-like hands in a radioactive rubbish tip) I would like to mention one curious thing. I would like historians to know that in this summer of 1997, whenever a group of English-speaking readers was laid out in the sun with paperback fiction balanced on its chests, at least one of them would be reading about an autopsy.

In our case, there were three of us, on a boat. One said: "Yuk! Did you know they make a Y-shaped incision?", to which the second replied: "Yes, I know, and they have water running down the table all the time." The third (me, actually) said: "That's funny, only two pages ago Commissario Guido Brunetti of the Venice Police was in the autopsy room at San Michele. He's out now, thank God, and eating some beautifully described risotto parmigiano."

Then we all sank back happily into our airport thrillers. But it rang a bell when I heard that in Richmond, Virginia, Patricia Cornwell is being sued. Ms Cornwell is a crime writer who has won lavish praise and sales for her meticulous autopsy-room details; she is known to hang out with pathologists and "assist" at postmortems. Publicity photographs sometimes show her in goggles, peering knowledgeably at nasty jars.

But this time, according to the family of a murder victim, the author "went too far" and "helped herself" to a real autopsy report for her novel *All That Remains*. Mrs Jewel Phelps, the mother of a murdered teenage girl, says it was clear that the detail of the fictional victim's torture — eyeballs, toenails, final position of the body, let us go no further — was lifted directly from the real autopsy report on her daughter, Annamaria, who died horribly in 1989. The report never entered the public domain because nobody was ever brought to trial.

Mrs Phelps has waited five years to bring the case because she *didn't* want her other children to know the detail of their sister's death. She says: "This is something that's got to be done ... we lost our precious pride and joy and then that woman writes a book and sits down on TV smiling as if she's done something big."

The case may fizzle out: the Phelps family live in a trailer and Patricia Cornwell is very rich. Even without that, the American courts might well decide that novelists are chronic jackdaws and can't be stopped from pinching bits of real life. Perhaps the defence will proudly argue that there was no borrowing, claiming that Ms Cornwell has just as depraved an imagination as any sadistic sex murderer and is therefore quite capable of making up disgusting mutilations all by herself.

But I am glad of the case, if only because it forces upon the rest of us the contrast between the glitz of the crime-thriller and the unglamorous misery of real murder. It also underlines how morbidly explicit books have become about physical cruelty. Our modish worries about films and videos tend to obscure the fact that the books got there first: whether posing as literature in the school of Will Self, or merely as light reading for the beach, authors have steadily pushed back the frontiers of acceptable indecency and gloried in it. "Powerful and harrowing," say the jackets and reviewers complacently. "Not for the squeamish ... grisly authenticity ... the true sights, sounds and smells of the morgue."

Sometimes (notably on novels by our new peeress, Ruth Rendell) the huckstérish tour-guide promises to take us "inside the mind of a psychopath", as if that were generally accepted as a fun place to be. Then when fiction fails, there is always another book about Fred West, Dennis Nilsen, Jeffrey Dahmer or some other inadequate creep who killed a lot of people. Here the sales campaign is invigorated by the fact that every squelch and scream really happened. Wow!

In blacker moments, I take this prevailing necrophilia as a sign of decadence: deeper than Nero's amphitheatre saw, because at least the Romans turned up in person to sit on hard stone benches as the day's entertainment was eaten by lions. They did not expect the intimate details of fellow-humans' deaths to be brought direct to their sun-lounger.

But since the sun is shining, let us find a kinder explanation: maybe we seek out second-hand horrors simply because we have gone suddenly soft in the past half century, and we know it and are embarrassed.

Maybe all this stuff about Y-shaped incisions and glistening entrails is our way of reproving ourselves for having become the sort of people who not only can't wring a chicken's neck, but panic if required to "draw" one. Remember that job? I saw my mother do it every Sunday morning with the aid of a large sherry; it must now be as arcane a skill as well-dressing. Nor are most men any braver: go to any seaside pier where children fish and you will see white-faced Daddies wincing and whimpering as they try to disguise the fact that they have not the faintest idea how to gut a mackerel.

Maybe all the prevailing violence and machismo of popular culture appeals only because we have grown so wet in real life. It has been a rapid change: our parents and grandparents faced danger at the Front and privation and improvisation at home. Fifty years on, the British way is to worry incessantly about our food, go to law for trauma and distress when we survive a disaster — or even witness one; to fret if our life expectancy drops from 78.3 years to 76.2, and need to be told nightly by TV Nanny to come in out of the hot sun after 35 perilous minutes. Our public swimming pools — once bracing — are heated to soup-like temperatures, and our houses sealed from winter air with such efficiency that dust allergies are the new epidemic. We agonise endlessly in print and on confessional TV about such new-fangled forms of affliction as low self-esteem, shortage of sexual bliss, and (currently fashionable) the "pain" having a baby of the gender you didn't happen to want.

I am sure the two things go together: an ever less realistic way of life and a hunger for depictions of danger and death and extreme hardship. I was in the BBC Television Centre canteen during Sir Ranulph Fiennes's first famous polar walk, and my companion kept grumbling that these expeditions had got too easy with modern aids. He was quite put out when I reminded him that ten minutes earlier he had rejected the option of walking down to Shepherds Bush for lunch on the grounds that the pavement was "lethally icy". It is the same with war: the wartime generation produced films and books about war which were restrained, understated, and focused more on human values and idealism than on bloody detail. Modern audiences — who panic at a nosebleed if it happens to be their nose — demand a steady diet of torn-off limbs and incinerated faces.

Or again, look around the lobby of your local multiscreen cinema. Crowds of shuffling, dough-faced adolescent boys in trainers are queueing to see an action movie full of cops running down killers or Marines plunging through sheets of blood. Meanwhile, box-office leaflets and screen commercials woo them with increasingly desperate recruiting messages from the Armed Services. The ranks cannot be filled because the dough-faced teenagers either don't fancy the discipline or else fail the basic fitness test.

And no, I have not the faintest idea what the answer is. I just wanted that eggheaded historian of AD2997 to know that even at the time, some of us thought it was all a bit odd.

Parliamentarian at bay

Magnus Linklater

on a threat to deselect the man who asked the West Lothian question

It is hard to imagine six words more inappropriate to that great campaigner, Tam Dalyell, MP: "He can't say what he likes." They were uttered this weekend by the secretary of Mr Dalyell's constituency party in Linlithgow, and they signalled the start of a process which could result in his deselection. Mr Dalyell's unswerving opposition to devolution in Scotland, and his refusal to keep quiet on the subject have finally become too much for some local officials — they want him out. Thus, if events take their course, the 35-year parliamentary career of the most formidable backbencher in the present House of Commons may be nearing its end. Mr Dalyell himself concedes as much. "There is every chance I will be deselected," he says. "I regard it as a fact of life. People who have very strong views in politics, which are not shared, have to face the consequences."

But has it really come to this? That an MP with strong and undeviating views on one of the great constitutional issues of the day can be voted out by a local clique because they happen not to accord with government policy? A House of Commons without Tam Dalyell seems inconceivable. This, after all, is not just any backbencher. This is the man who torpedoed Margaret Thatcher over the *Belgrano*, campaigned relentlessly over the Westland affair, predicted the ecological disasters of the Gulf War, sought doggedly to expose the truth about Lockerbie, and has got up the noses of more Tory ministers in the course of a fearless career than the entire present Cabinet.

One might have imagined that his achievements on behalf of his party, together with a reputation for unimpeachable integrity, and an ability, as one admirer put it, "to smell a really good rat" would summon the Labour leadership to his defence. After all, the National Executive has not hesitated to intervene in local constituency affairs (witness Paisley and the Gordon McMaster affair).

Tony Blair has made it clear that there is no gagging order on MPs who wish to express individual points of view, and must surely therefore defend to the hilt Mr Dalyell's right to speak out. So far, however, the silence from on high has been deafening. There have been no robust offers of support from the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, no honeyed words from the Minister without Portfolio, Peter Mandelson. Of course, Mr Dalyell, who rarely fails to tread on a protruding foot if he comes across one, has not helped his cause by attacking Mr Mandelson personally. He described the minister's view that devolution would strengthen Scotland's role in the UK as follows: "If Peter Mandelson is going to play a leading role in the devolution campaign, then he should not say such silly things." This remark was not best calculated to win the minister's unstinting support.

And yet the Dalyell cause is surely an ideal one for the party to embrace. By standing up for his right to disagree, it would demonstrate at a stroke that it is the party of the individual, rather than the thought police. It would show to the public at large that it is confident enough to allow principled dissent, however inconvenient, and it would, in backing Mr Dalyell, be supporting a noble cause — he has, after all, acquired the status by now of National Treasure.

The Linlithgow party will argue that it cannot tolerate an MP who threatens to undermine its campaign to secure a "yes, yes" vote in the forthcoming referendum. Some of its members claim that Mr Dalyell has gone back on his word not to speak out against devolution and have come as close as they can to accusing him of deceit. That suggestion, of course, has been like a red rag to the Dalyell bull. He says that at his selection conference two years ago he undertook to confine his objections to discussions in Commons committees on any forthcoming Scotland Act, and that he would not form a Labour "Vote No" campaign — as he did with Robin Cook in 1979. But that undertaking was given before he learnt that the referendum would be held only on a White Paper, thus pre-empting the debate. As recently as May, he claims, Mr Blair promised that the Bill would precede the referendum.

The White Paper changed all that. He has therefore let it be known that he will speak up if asked. Today he goes to talk to the computer firm Hewlett Packard. He has agreed to take part in a forthcoming debate with pro-devolutionists. In his own words, it is a case of "have speech, will travel". This all seems thoroughly healthy. If the debate on a Scottish parliament is to be a real, rather than a cosmetic, exercise, then it needs intelligent and thought-provoking discussions of the kind Mr Dalyell can guarantee. The party that feels it cannot tolerate this level of argument diminishes itself as much as it does the principle of free expression.

Who, after all, is the local party organisation representing anyway? Not, I would guess, the constituents themselves. Mr Dalyell's views are not exactly new. Indeed, it is nearly two decades since he first propounded the West Lothian question — the most famous issue in the whole devolution debate. At each subsequent election the voters of the two constituencies he has represented — West Lothian and Linlithgow — have returned him with thumping majorities. The fact is that apart from his national reputation, he also happens to be an able, hard-working and extremely popular constituency MP. There is no mechanism in such matters for taking the views of the ordinary voter into consideration. But I have a shrewd idea whom they would support if offered the chance.

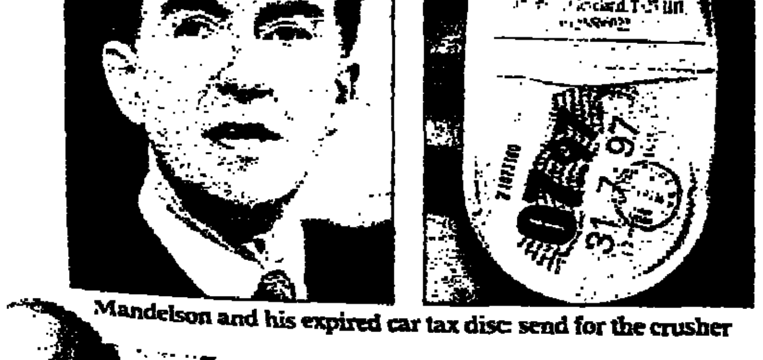
So perhaps the local party should go back to its grass roots and think again. After all, it would be ironic if the answer to the West Lothian Question were finally given — by sacking the man who first asked it.

THE TIMES DIARY

Taxing times

ONE week after the Government announced plans to crack down on car-tax dodgers, Peter Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio, is driving round town in an untaxed car. Mandelson has an L-reg dark green Rover for his own personal use, which he bought in his Hartlepool constituency. The tax disc displayed in the front window expired at the end of July.

Mandelson is naturally a busy man, sweeping up in the absence of the Prime Minister. Just last week, however, Baroness Hayman, the Roads Minister, stood guard over the crushing of a white Ford Sierra to show what would happen to untaxed cars in future. "Honest motorists are fed up with carrying the bill for the hard core who continually evade paying their road tax," she said. From August 18, untaxed cars such as Mandelson's will be clamped, towed, sold or crushed in order to recoup the £175 million lost to the Treasury by dodgers.



Mandelson and his expired car tax disc: send for the crusher

Over at the Minister without Car Tax's Downing Street office, his assistant, Benjamin Wegg-Prosser, said: "If it has expired, I'm sure it will be renewed immediately."

The next time Mandelson steps into his car, however, he should remind himself of the posters which his Government will be pasting up across the land. They show a crushed car with the words: "Do you feel lucky, Dodger?"

Quiet guns

DESPITE the recent shooting boom, since the discovery of the "Grouse Moor babes", today promises to be a quiet Glorious Twelfth. An early spring caused the grouse to breed too soon and subsequent bad weather has seen off many of the young.

"Almost no one will be shooting tomorrow," said a despondent British Field Sports Society press officer. "The dreadful weather is the culprit." Over at the British Association for Shooting and Conservation the guns were still firmly in their cases. "It's not only the weather, but a tick," said a spokesman. "It lives on sheep and is transmitting the louping-ill virus to the grouse chicks."

Gerald Turton, however, father of "grouse-babes" Natasha and Topsy Turton, and owner of a moor at Roxby, North Yorkshire, is circumspect about the news. "We have this debate every year. I think it is likely that there will be some late broods."

Clocking off

WHEN John Major became Prime Minister, he ordered all ticking and chiming clocks to be removed from his private quarters on the top floor of No 10. This insight into the Major mind comes in a piece in the latest Ministry of Defence newsletter, *Focus*, by Clive Osborne, whose firm A.A. Osborne & Son (Est. 1615) is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of all of Whitehall's clocks. It fits in with the other pointers we have had to Major's obsessiveness: his fear of going grey, his fanatical personal grooming.

"Mr Major didn't like the sound of clocks striking, so had no mechanical pieces in his private flat," says Osborne. "With the new chappy they've gone back again."

● *South Africa's film industry is preparing for the arrival of the crew of* Mambo, *a film about elephants to be produced by Dodi Fayed. Filming will begin soon at Shamwari Game Reserve, in South Africa's Eastern Cape. It is hoped that the entire $60 million cost of the film will be stumped up from Al Fayed coffers because it touches on the evils of landmines, a special interest of his friend Diana, Princess of Wales.*

"I'm concerned that no one sneezes on this climb"

Flow blow

FLASH floods in east Devon have struck the home of Angela Browning, Conservative MP for Tiverton and Honiton and member of the Shadow frontbench education team. On Thursday night, when Mrs Browning heard the rush of water into her house, she came to the top of her stairs and shone a torch into the power-cut gloom. There, floating by the banister, were three volumes of the *Dearing Report on Higher Education*.

"I was hoping to read it in the recess," says Mrs Browning, who has had to order another copy. "Lots of my personal things have gone and the insurance company are going to have to put us up for several weeks before the house is fit to live in."

Not that Mrs Browning and the folk of east Devon are quitters. "There is a good wartime spirit down here," she says.

Wild boys

WITH the Ashes secured, the Australian cricket team opted for a low-key celebration in Nottingham on Sunday night, in contrast with the beery affair which followed their success at Headingley.

On that occasion, the Australian captain Mark Taylor and his boys were joined at the bar of the Holiday Inn, Leeds, by fellow visiting Antipodeans, the Canberra Raiders rugby league team.

The free-flowing beer and testosterone led to primitive contests of brute strength and scrummaging, bizarre drinking competitions and impromptu displays of topless wrestling. At one point, Taylor was crash-tackled by several playful Raiders, turned upside down and shaken so violently he was moved to retreat from the bar and escape with his wife for supper.

"There was some boisterous good humour in the celebrations, but no complaints," said the hotel's deputy manager, Gordon Dennistown. "If anything, the other guests were amused by the Australians."

P·H·S

[illegible]

A BALANCE OF RIGHTS

The register should be a tripwire, not a branding-iron.

The proposed national register of sex offenders could make a contribution to preventing some sexual offences. But, as the Home Office Minister Alun Michael has wisely made clear, its influence for good or ill should not be overstated. The horrific nature of many sexual crimes has made it difficult to conduct a rational debate. Arguments about probabilities and principles inevitably sound unfeeling to those whose families have been devastated. Civil libertarians, *probation officers and parents should all* recognise that the register is a tool of crime prevention, not an engine of retribution. It is meant to be a tripwire, not a branding-iron.

No register of sex offenders can hope to be comprehensive. It will be years before any register comes close. Inclusion on the register is very far from being a guarantee that an individual will not reoffend. Nevertheless, the register can go some way to providing practical reassurance. By providing local police and schoolteachers with information that will make it more difficult for the compulsive paedophile to insinuate himself into the company of children, a measure of protection, albeit limited, is provided. Local agencies will be encouraged to review how to limit the risk to the vulnerable.

Libertarians oppose the plan on principled grounds. *Some libertarian objections* still require an answer. Why should a crime which only merits a caution be sufficient to ensure inclusion on the register? Why should gross indecency, the committing of acts in public which are better restricted to the bedroom, be bracketed with offences which do not involve consent? There are other objections, worth rehearsing, to which an answer can be offered. Why should one group of offenders continue to bear a stigma and endure new restraints, after they have served their sentence, simply because of the nature of their crime? Why not warn a community if a repeat burglar is to be released in their midst, or require a persistent pickpocket to register his movements with the police? The argument has some moral force, but ignores the practical evidence of paedophile conduct. Most criminal activity is committed by young males, and with age comes, if not penitence, then at least more settled habits. Paedophile behaviour tends, however, to be different. It is often compulsive and obsessive, closer to an addiction than most crime, which is opportunist. Social pressure and moral restraint are often flimsy safeguards against behaviour which the paedophile himself may, on occasion, abhor but often cannot control. *The extra professional vigilance and restriction* on liberty which the register would create can be justified by the inability of many paedophiles to police their desires or make genuinely free choices. But it must not be forgotten that exceptions are being made and freedoms curtailed. In such circumstances the right to appeal against inclusion, and to review if there is reason to believe a change is appropriate, has to be rigorously upheld.

There are other objections to the register, less worthy of weighing by ministers. Elements in the Probation Service and police will argue that this new responsibility requires new resources. They should recognise that a preventive measure like the register should save the authorities time and money, by decreasing the number of *offences committed, and be grateful for the* generous funding they still enjoy.

Some parents are frustrated that information on the register will be restricted to professionals and they will be denied access to the identities of potential offenders in their community. Such fears are understandable, particularly from those whose children have suffered the loss of innocence, or worse. It would, however, be an invitation to lynch law to broadcast the names of potential offenders indiscriminately. There has to be room for individuals to reform if they can, although penitence should be tempered with vigilance. In operating this register it is hugely difficult to strike the right balance between protecting children, and liberties, but the Government seems to have chosen a properly modest, and moderate, position.

DEMOCRATIC DEFICIT

The torrid politics behind Asia's turbulent currencies

A stiff course of house-training lies ahead for Asia's younger tigers. Since Thailand was driven to let the baht float — or, more accurately, sink — last month, greater realism has abruptly begun to temper the almost mystical faith of international investors in the management of the region's economies. Almost every Asian stock market and currency has been touched by the contagion of sharply diminished confidence.

The initial reaction of Asian leaders, led by Malaysia's Mahathir Mohamad, was to throw a tantrum about the foreign "rogues, robbers and brigands" conspiring to deprive Asia of its aura of soaraway success. Asean's foreign ministers even issued a statement condemning currency speculators for destabilising their currencies for their own "self-serving purposes". This display of political arrogance and economic illiteracy merely *sharpened scepticism. And now that* the Thai Government, which has been forced to come clean about its affairs since it applied to the International Monetary Fund for a $15 billion rescue package, has revealed the scale of the mess in its financial sector, the rhetoric has become somewhat more sober.

The run on Asian currencies has been triggered by some bad luck, but a lot of bad management. The bad luck was the rapid rise in the dollar, to which most Asian currencies have been rigidly and unwisely pegged. The bad management has not been limited to these governments' reluctance to listen to IMF advice to take remedial action by loosening their links to the dollar, tightening budgets and curbing speculation in Asia's saturated property markets.

The trouble is not only that after ten years of annual growth of 8 per cent and up, Asian governments seem to have forgotten how to use the brakes when the engine overheats. They have been culpably reluctant to tackle the evils of crony capitalism, insider dealing and lax financial regulation. One reason is that far too many Asian politicians are in the money-spinning game up to their Rolexes.

No country, Madeleine Albright told last month's Asean summit, can run a world-class economy "without a properly regulated financial services sector". This lack, acute in Thailand, is common to most other Asian economic tigers and is directly linked to the dark side of state intervention — an interplay between politics and money so intimate that in Indonesia, for example, "informal" expenses such as licence-buying and straight bribes account for up to 15 per cent of the capital costs of new investment.

Thai politicians routinely buy votes and make back the money, with interest, in office. Last week, when the Government finally let 58 of the country's 91 suspect *financial institutions go to the wall*, it revealed that it had already spent nearly £10 billion propping them up. Among their biggest shareholders, the Government admits, are a lot of "familiar names". Action last January, when the Thai property bubble began to burst, would probably have averted today's crisis; but that would have been uncomfortably soon after the ruling coalition had spent £600 million on voters in last November's parliamentary elections.

A new constitution for Thailand could start to curb these abuses. Most of its neighbours also need to improve their political accountability. For a decade at least, global risk analysts have tended to shrug off pertinent questions about rigged property markets, dodgy financial practices and unhealthily close links between politics and business with soothing murmurs about the "sound fundamentals" of Asia's boom economies. They may take a *sharper* look after this. For Asians, that is nothing but good news.

CREATURES SMALL AND GREAT

Modern man is fascinated by once-and-future species

Should Steven Spielberg be digging for inspiration, the Australian Outback would provide a fertile site. In the remote north-western regions of Queensland, Professor Mike Archer has unearthed the remains of vast and voracious prehistoric beasts, among them the "Fangaroo", a razor-incisored *ancestor of our milder-mannered* Skippy, and an arboreal crocodile which lurked lethally in trees. Meanwhile, near Alice Springs, the elephantine skeleton of an ancient bird 12 feet tall is just the latest archaeological sensation and an incubus for suburban bird-tables.

We are fascinated by our Brobdingnagian forebears. That which could dwarf or devour us has a mesmerising power. In *London's* Natural History Museum, more visitors gather to gape at the dinosaurs than at any other exhibit. Reconstructed skeletons and life-size models of prehistoric monsters represent a journey through time and space as evocative as any intergalactic voyage.

Jonathan Swift understood this allure. But he was as interested in Liliputian life as he was in the giant's world. Today it is in the microcosmos that many of the most inspiring discoveries are made. The dedication of scientists, devoting years of their lives to intricate study in specialised fields, combines with technological advances to bring to public attention the forgotten and fabulous creatures that have made their homes in the remotest niches of the natural world.

The film *Microcosmos* documents a day in the grass-roots of a Pyrenean meadow. It *unfolds a* world of wonder. Few will forget such sequences as that of a creature, more bizarre than any sci-fi spook, rising slowly from glossy waters, towering stilted on needle legs. The setting sun burnishes a freakishly antennaed head. And it is only when this unearthly apparition suddenly spreads its wings with a familiar whine, that audiences recognise it as a mosquito.

For those prepared to search, the familiar world is crammed with wonders, from the ultraviolet iridescence on a starling's breast to magnetic particles in the abdomens of bees which aid navigatation. Such details bring fresh awe at the beauty, complexity and ingenuity of nature. Beyond the reach of the naked eye new marvels are unveiled: worms which feed on frozen methane in Pacific depths; bacteria which survive submerged in the geological strata. The search for exotic species does not lie simply in the past. It continues into the future.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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British policy in Northern Ireland

From Mr William Bell

Sir, Michael Gove ("Between a rock and a hard place", August 7) is wrong to argue that the Northern Ireland policy of successive British Governments has been to bring two irreconcilable parties together through negotiations which will then produce some common ground by which a settlement will be reached.

In reality, British *Government* policy has been to remove Northern Ireland from the United Kingdom, moving at a pace determined by the relative political strength of the Unionist majority at any given time. Why else would the Sunningdale agreement of 1973 have allowed for the establishment of a Council of Ireland, giving the Republic of Ireland a say in the affairs of a part of sovereign *UK territory? Why else does the* Anglo-Irish agreement of 1985 allow for a Maryfield secretariat, staffed by Southern civil servants, to operate in Belfast and service the consultative role given to the Irish Government in Northern Ireland's affairs?

The proposed all-party talks scheduled for September are not the main game in town; that is being enacted in the current negotiations between the British Government and Sinn Fein/IRA. The Unionist community, as recent history suggests, should be wary of present government policy, lest they too find themselves between a rock and a hard place.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM BELL,
16 Carnview Park,
Ballymena, Co Antrim.
August 8.

From Mr H. Douglas Miller

Sir, Michael Gove's article on the futility of Ulster peace negotiations, however realistic, fails to suggest a constructive answer to the perennial Irish problem.

Mere cosmetic tinkering with an *internal settlement for Northern Ireland* does not address the overall Irish dimension and will therefore permanently solve nothing. Indeed Gerry Adams has reaffirmed yet again, in talks with Mo Mowlam (report, August 7) that Sinn Fein's first demand in the forthcoming multi-party talks would be a united Ireland.

If reunification is ever to be attractive to the North, Dublin simply must produce a new, liberal constitution for the 21st century, encompassing a Bill of Rights and all the guarantees and concessions which Unionists could reasonably expect, including dual nationality. If such were the case, Britain could withdraw with dignity and a clear conscience and honour would be satisfied on all sides.

So, the onus remains where it has always lain, on the Republic. Dublin should act immediately. Mary Robinson could, on her retirement next month, use her talents as a constitutional lawyer to chair an ad hoc constitutional commission. It is not too late, even now, for the year 2000 to be the target date for an Irish New Deal.

Yours faithfully,
H. DOUGLAS MILLER,
The Laurels, Berks Hill,
Chorleywood, Hertfordshire.
August 10.

Tory appeal

From Mr Michael J. Gibbons

Sir, The high and dry tone of Sir Julian Critchley (letter, August 6) suggests that at least one Tory has not yet understood why the Conservatives lost the last general election.

Politics should be an appropriate balance of seriousness and fun. William Hague is suitably serious at Prime Minister's Questions where he has scored several successes — notably over the Lord Simon affair.

Equally, his personalised baseball *cap and his ride on a water chute in* Cornwall which, after all, is a major area of leisure and recreation, emphasises in a light-hearted way the serious need of the Conservatives to appeal to a broad sector of society.

Those activists who heard Mr Hague's speech at the conclusion of his Cornish tour will know that in our leader we have someone who combines the best of his two predecessors — a passion of purpose and a naturalness with people. In time this will be recognised and be welcomed throughout the United Kingdom.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL GIBBONS,
36 Carclew Street, Truro, Cornwall.
August 6.

From Mr James Reeve

Sir, At least Mr Hague does not appear to wear his baseball cap back-to-front.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES REEVE,
46c Montpellier Spa Road,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Cutting back sharply

From Mr Peter Hungerford-Welch

Sir, A notice in a local DIY store, informing customers that the store would no longer stock a particular model of lawnmower, made for alarming reading. Apparently, the mower was "de-ranged".

Yours faithfully,
PETER HUNGERFORD-WELCH,
22 Oaklea Road,
Paddock Wood, Tonbridge, Kent.

Brownfield sites can be made viable

From the Director of the Civic Trust

Sir, It will be difficult to meet more of our housing need in towns and cities rather than on greenfield sites (letters, August 5). To do the job well we will need to increase investment to develop difficult urban sites, renew utilities, provide better welfare services and cater for all types of housing need.

Recent regeneration successes, some involving this trust, have shown *this can be done but it will require* a new range of incentives. Why not create funds for such work by re-using some of the savings from the gradual phasing-out of Miras, and by a modest levy on greenfield housing development? Why not make conversion and refurbishment more attractive through a reduction in VAT?

Even with these measures, a substantial amount of greenfield development will still need to occur, but the balance of development advantage would be tilted towards greater efforts to provide housing in a way that actually revitalises and improves our towns and cities.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL GWILLIAM,
Director,
Civic Trust,
17 Carlton House Terrace, SW1.
August 6.

From Mr David Crease

Sir, If our land is so precious a resource — and it is — then why are architects so often accused of "town cramming" when proposing to make economical use of it?

Planning committees rightly wish to encourage new development in existing built-up areas, and use the green fields only as a last resort. But in giving with one hand the necessary *permission to develop land, they* snatch away with the other the liberty of the architect to put it to the best use. All too often a design that meets all the requirements, statutory and otherwise, for civilised life in marketable or affordable homes is refused permission on the subjective ground of "overdevelopment".

There is no escaping the arithmetic. If planning committees insist on halving the number of homes to the acre we shall use up twice as many acres. There is much argument about the forecasts for household formation and population growth. But there can be no argument about the effect of housing density on the equation.

I am, Sir, yours etc,
DAVID CREASE (architect),
Deer Park, Scampston,
Malton, North Yorkshire.
August 5.

Gap year is invaluable

From the Director of Gap Activity Projects (GAP) and others

Sir, Employers and universities value students who have had a broad range of experiences. The gap year (letters, August 11) provides such experience and in particular widens international awareness.

We recognise the financial pressures on students from the proposed changes in the funding of higher education. However, it would be a great shame if the long-term benefits for individuals and societies at large were *lost. We hope students will not feel* forced to give up the unique opportunity which the gap year provides.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CORNELL,
Director, Gap Activity Projects,
RICHARD BROWN,
Director, Council for Industry
and Higher Education,
ROLY COCKMAN,
Chief Executive, Association of
Graduate Recruiters,
GAP House,
44 Queen's Road,
Reading, Berkshire.
August 11.

From Mrs Lavinia Maclean-Bristol

Sir, If every school-leaver intending to take a gap year could be encouraged to spend some of those 12 months as a volunteer, by the Government waiving the first year's £1,000 fee, the spirit of volunteering in our youth would be heightened and their public spirit rewarded.

Each gap-year student should be encouraged to volunteer for a minimum of six months, and attached to a recognised volunteering organisation, with a certificate at the end as proof that the participant had honoured the agreement. This should be seen as *part of a structured year between* school and university.

The added maturity and determination, and indeed compassion, shown during this period would pay dividends when the gap-year student attended university. Education, after all, should surely include looking beyond personal wishes and an element of selflessness.

Yours faithfully,
LAVINIA MACLEAN-BRISTOL
(Director), Project Trust,
The Hebridean Centre,
Isle of Coll, Argyllshire.
August 11.

Operating a retractor

From Professor J. Gareth Jones

Sir, I am sure that many people who work in operating theatres were both amused, then depressed, about the outburst which followed recent reports of a teenager on work experience who was apparently allowed to hold a retractor during surgery (letters, August 5). Most doctors will recall the sheer tedium and lack of skill needed *to hold retractors during their medical* training.

A quite different order of skill and excitement is to be found in anaesthesia. My first work experience in the operating theatre was in Cardiff in 1945 when at the age of nine I was instructed by my father how to give open ether to anaesthetise patients with fractured limbs. This anaesthetic, chosen for its safety in unskilled hands, has now been largely abandoned because of its explosive properties.

A few years later, while on holiday in a remote part of Wales, my father showed me how to use model aeroplane fuel, based on ether, to anaesthetise a cat to remove a fish-hook from its mouth.

While these experiences are illegal, and neither influenced my subsequent choice of career as an anaesthetist, they were useful talking points at an interview in the 1960s when I was promoted from chest physician to a new post of lecturer in anaesthesia without any previous experience of anaesthetising patients. That specialisation came later. Such an appointment would be a very unlikely event in the 1990s.

Yours faithfully,
J. GARETH JONES
(Professor of Anaesthesia),
University of Cambridge
Clinical School,
Department of Anaesthesia,
Addenbrooke's Hospital,
Hills Road, Cambridge.
August 5.

From Dr Robert M. Bruce-Chwatt

Sir, The extraordinary decision to suspend the senior surgeon who reportedly allowed the 16-year-old to hold a retractor brings an apt reminder of the definition of a junior surgical houseman or a senior medical student "assisting" at an operation, as quoted by a senior consultant at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead: respectively, someone or something asleep on the other end of a retractor.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT M. BRUCE-CHWATT
(Royal Free Hospital School
of Medicine, 1970-75),
York Lodge,
1 York Road, Richmond, Surrey.
August 5.

Hong Kong inquiry

From Dr Robin Porter

Sir, Calls for a thorough public inquiry into what was promised to whom and by whom over Hong Kong in the period before Chris Patten took over as Governor (letters, July 16, 26, 31, August 1) are timely and entirely appropriate.

There is a growing suspicion that some of those who are most vocal now in their criticism of Mr Patten may have offered secret assurances to the *Chinese Government which deceived* not only the people of Hong Kong and of Britain, but also the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee.

Democracy is something for which people in this country have in living memory been prepared to sacrifice their lives; most British people believe in it, and many admire Chris Patten for having the courage to try to expand it, however belatedly, in Hong Kong.

Support for his achievement exists across party lines, and indeed in other democratic countries, notably in the United States, and in Europe and the Commonwealth. The Labour Party, too, would do well to bear this in mind.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN PORTER,
Keele University,
Department of Politics,
Keele, Staffordshire ST5 5BG.
August 6.

From the Executive Director of Article 19

Sir, "News management" to obscure political embarrassment is one thing, vote rigging quite another (leading article, "Chinese whispers", and letter, August 6).

Did the British Government collude with the Beijing administration to deprive millions of Hong Kong citizens of democratic rights at an early date? If so, should not the right of the people concerned to know this override any Official Secrets Act?

This is the discussion we should be having, at the same time as deciding the political and economic measures which should be adopted to ensure that freedom of expression, already being eroded in Hong Kong, is restored, and extended to the rest of China.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCES D'SOUZA,
Executive Director, Article 19,
Lancaster House,
33 Islington High Street, N1.
August 6.

Business letters, page 27

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Stop these foolish motorcycle articles

From Professor R. Michael Pittilo

Sir, I am enjoying your features on motorcycling and the increased emphasis being given to two-wheeled transport in your pages (Car 97, "Motorcycling month", August 1 and 9). Motorcycles can be safe, environmentally friendly, economical and efficient forms of transport, provided that they are ridden skilfully.

Recently, in the process of selecting a new motorcycle for commuting and touring, I have had occasion to read widely across the popular motorcycling press. I have been dismayed to see many articles explaining how to perform stunts as well as encouraging riding techniques that, if attempted on the public highway, are illegal and extremely dangerous both to the rider and other road users.

The skills required to make safe and rapid progress on the public highways are very different to those needed by the grand prix racer; only a few have the aptitude and ability to succeed on the racetrack. Organisations such as the Institute of Advanced Motorists can advise on training and enable a rider to have his or her road skills assessed by an examiner with a Class One certificate and traffic-patrol riding experience.

Meanwhile, I hope that many of your readers may be tempted to either take up or return to motorcycling, to experience both the pleasures and exhilaration that it offers.

Yours faithfully,
R. MICHAEL PITTILO,
Woodbury, 37 Park Green,
Great Bookham, Surrey.
August 10.

Road-tax dodgers

From Mr Philip Le Brocq

Sir, Road-tax dodgers may well soon risk having their cars crushed for scrap in Britain (report, August 6), but we in Jersey have already solved the problem without resorting to such crunching extremes.

On January 1, 1994, Jersey abolished the labour-intensive annual £22.50 car tax. By happy coincidence, the tax per gallon on fuel was increased by 11p to £1.40.

We now display an annual insurance disc with valid date and *insurance details instead*, issued by insurance companies, both local and on the mainland.

No longer do we have to worry about remembering yearly tax as well as an insurance payment. Should we crash (and even our 40mph island-wide speed limit is not faultless), exchange of insurance details is easy. The police can see at a glance if a car is not insured — even more important than if it is not taxed — and the gas-guzzling car-owners pay for what they use.

This is a very fair system, which saves Jersey's Registration Department's costs and time, and therefore also saves taxpayers' money.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP LE BROCQ,
The Cottage, Le Bourg,
La Grande Route de la Côte,
St Clement, Jersey, CI.
August 7.

From Mr R. G. Maling

Sir, Following the announcement of the Government's campaign against road-tax evaders (and the dire consequences) based on a yearly loss of £175 *million, may we next expect to see* TV detector vans equipped with TV set crushers as TV licence-fee evasion appears to be running at a similar loss?

Yours faithfully,
R. G. MALING,
Windfall,
11 Chalkshire Road, Butlers Cross,
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.
August 5.

School food

From Mr Peter Kottler

Sir, Guy Walters ("Damp toast, gloop and Rupert's cafetière", August 8; see also letter, August 10) was lucky in his Eton diet.

I was at school at St Edmund's, Ware, in the 1950s. The food there was so awful, and consumption obligatory, that I devised a detachable polythene bag, sewn into my jacket pocket, that could be emptied into the school dog's dish later.

Puckeridge, the nearest haven for a smoke, did not boast a McDonald's (which hadn't been invented then) but only a transport caff, without which I would have starved.

The school dog was devoted to me.

Yours fastidiously,
PETER KOTTLER,
Kantstrasse 2,
04275 Leipzig, Germany.
August 10.

Buying British

From Mr Richard Whitehead

Sir, My companion at lunch recently had a bottle of Cobra lager, imported from India, which cost £2.50. I had a bottle of English water only slightly larger. It cost £2.95. What is going on?

Yours faithfully,
R. J. WHITEHEAD,
7 Ruvigny Mansions,
The Embankment, Putney, SW15.
August 11.

SOCIAL NEWS

The President of Brazil and Senhora Cardoso will pay a state visit from December 2 to 5.

Anniversaries today

BIRTHS:
Thomas Bewick, engraver, Newcastle, 1753; King George IV, reigned 1820-30, London, 1762; Robert Southey, Poet Laureate 1813-43, Bristol, 1774; Sir Joseph Barnby, composer, York, 1838; Jacinto Benavente, dramatist and poet, Madrid, 1866; Cecil B. de Mille, film producer, Ashfield, Massachusetts, 1881; Erwin Schrodinger, physicist, Nobel laureate 1933, Vienna, 1887; Dr C.E.M. Joad, civil servant, author and controversialist, Durham, 1891.

DEATHS:
Nahum Tate, Poet Laureate 1692-1715, London, 1715; Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh, statesman, committed suicide, North Gray Place, Kent, 1822; William Blake, poet and artist, London, 1827; George Stephenson, builder of *The Rocket*, Tapton, Derbyshire, 1848; Sir William Jackson Hooker, 1st Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, 1841-65, London, 1865; James Lowell, poet and diplomat, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1891; Adolf Erik Nordenskjöld, Arctic explorer and geologist, Dalbyö, Sweden, 1901; John Philip Holland, submarine pioneer, Newark, New Jersey, 1914; Arthur Griffith, Irish statesman, Dublin, 1922; Leos Janacek, composer, Ostrava, Czechoslovakia, 1928; Thomas Mann, novelist, Nobel laureate 1929, Zurich, 1955; Ian Fleming, creator of James Bond, Canterbury, 1964; Professor Sir Ernst Chain, biochemist, Nobel laureate 1945, Ireland, 1979; Henry Fonda, actor, Los Angeles, 1982.

Thomas Alva Edison made the first sound recording onto a foil-wrapped cylinder on the Edisonphone, 1887.

The first Model T Ford was produced, 1908.

Echo I, the first US communications satellite, was launched from Cape Canaveral, 1960.

The first giant panda born in captivity was delivered naturally in a Mexican zoo, 1980.

University news

University College, Oxford
Sir Robin Butler is to be elected to the Mastership of University College, Oxford, with effect from January 4, 1998.

Luncheon

Rotary Club of London
Mr Clifford Charles, President of the Rotary Club of London presided at a luncheon held yesterday at the Portman Hotel. Miss Vicki Jenson, Director of Age Concern, also spoke.

Noddy's creator is respectable again

By Kathryn Knight

ENID BLYTON'S place in history was sealed yesterday when the centenary of her birth was marked by the unveiling of an English Heritage blue plaque at the house where she wrote her first book.

Her daughter Gillian Baverstock unveiled the plaque at the house in Surbiton, southwest London, where her mother wrote her first book, *Child Whispers*. Despite 500 rejections by publishers, she went on to produce more than 700 children's books before her death, aged 71, in 1968.

Enid Blyton: an output of 10,000 words a day

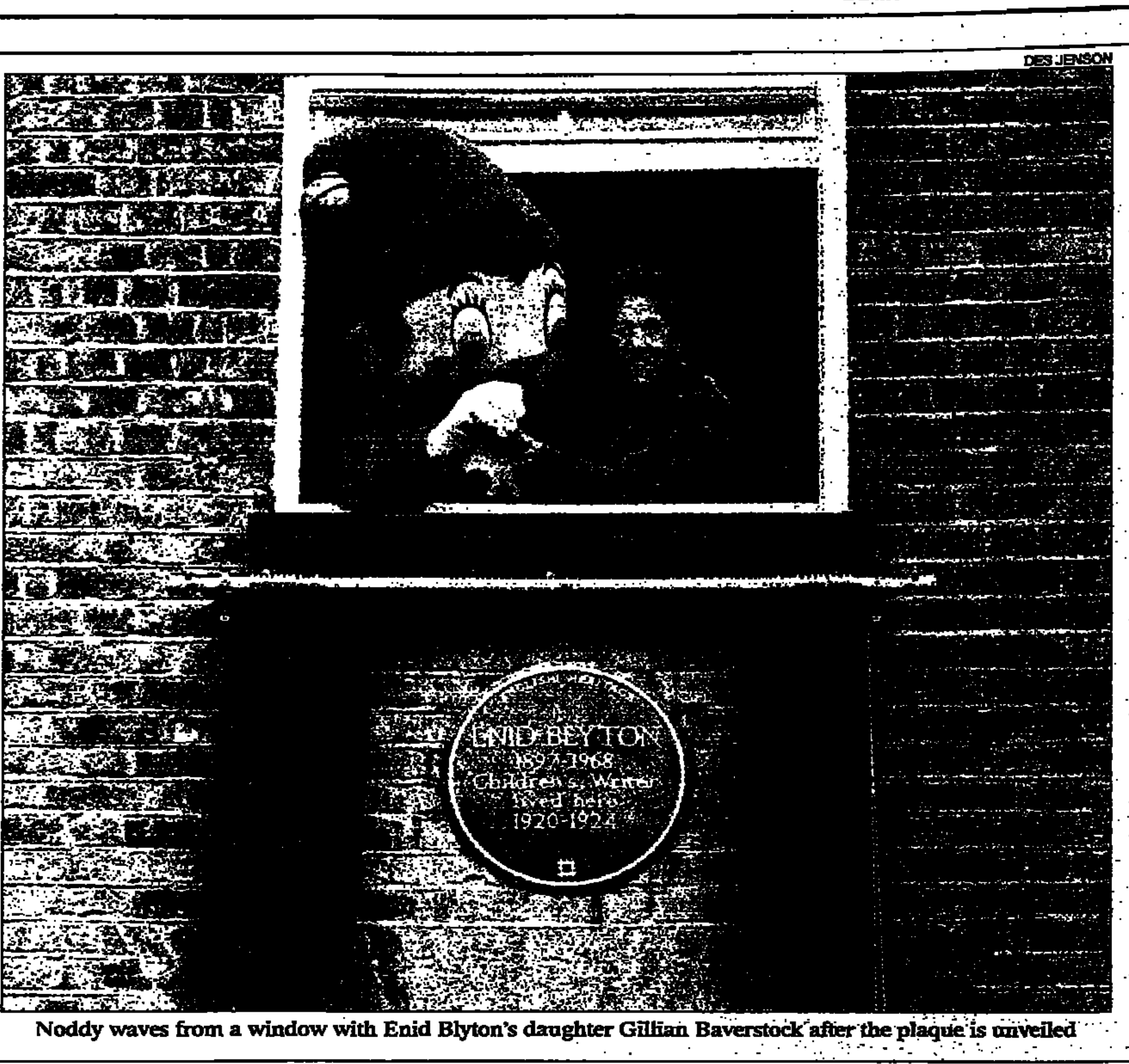
Yesterday Mrs Baverstock confessed that her mother had often tired of her best-loved characters and churned out her books only because of pressure from her publishers. "She was not excited by writing some of them."

Blyton's huge output — she could write a book a week, routinely typing 10,000 words a day — led some to think she employed a team of ghostwriters and earned her the nickname "sausage machine".

In the past few years, her work has been accused of racism, sexism and snobbery. It was banned by some "politically correct" councils and some characters, including the golliwog in Noddy, were removed or altered. But more recently her books have enjoyed a renaissance and sell around 8.5 million copies a year worldwide.

Now many of her characters are likely to be brought sharply up to date after the copyright to her books was sold to the co-owners of the Trocadero entertainment complex in Central London.

More traditionally, on September 7, the Royal Mail will release a set of five commemorative stamps.



Noddy waves from a window with Enid Blyton's daughter Gillian Baverstock after the plaque is unveiled

The Sovereign's Parade at the RMA Sandhurst

FIELD MARSHAL Lord Bramall represented the Queen at The Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst last Friday.

The following have been granted commissions in the Regiments and Corps shown, having successfully completed Commissioning Course No 963. The Sword of Honour was won by Junior Under Officer P D L Rennie and the Queen's Medal by Officer Cadet D M Wilkins:

M B Adams, Kings, John Hampden GS, High Wycombe; E L Ainsworth, RLC, Lutterworth School, Leicester; D A Allison, AGC (SPS), St Peter's School, Solihull; A J C Anderson, LI, Harrow School; T E Ash, REME, Fallibroome CHS, Macclesfield; M J Bacon, Int Corps, Claremont-Fan-Court School; P R Ballard, REME, Wycliffe Coll; R S A Barthorp, Coldm Gds, Eton Coll; P M K Beaumont, RLC, Gosfield School; E N J Bennett, RLC, Vandyke School; P G Beresford-Jones, RGR, Charterhouse School; A G Biddulph, KRH, Eton Coll; D P Binnie, REME, Hookergate CS, Newcastle; T X V Black, Gren Gds, Eton Coll; D M Blakeley, Para, Welbeck Coll; J R Blamire, KOSB, Ryton School, Gateshead; V J Bland, RLC, Woodford Lodge HS; J H Blount, LG, Harrow School; G P J Blunden, RE, King's School, Bruton; G S Bond, RE, Arnold School, Blackpool; S L Bradley-Walker, REME, Brooksbank School; N P Brady, RLC, Prior Park Coll; D H Branch, RGR, Watford GS; C D R Briggs, RGR, William Parker School; S J Britton, Para, Bedford School; R D Brown, Kings, Northwood Boys HS, RSA; O G Bunkle, RLC, Fakenham HS; T J H Bunney, RS, The Edinburgh Academy; C W Burridge, QRL, The Perse School; L S Burt, AGC (SPS), Yeovil Coll; D A Byles, RAMC, Warwick School.

J R Campbell-Barnard, 9/12 L, Wellington Coll; C M B Carver, RWF, Ellesmere Coll; P C D Cavill, QDG, Victoria Coll, St Helier; S R Christian, AGC (SPS), Highams Park School; M P Clark, RLC, Blandford Upper School; A J Clarke, RA, Stourport HS; A D Clixby, R Signals, Lincoln Christ Hospital; R M Coates, RRF, Cheadle Hulme School; J V Cohen, AGC (SPS), St Clement Danes School; N C S Coke, LD, Downside School; S J Cole, WG, St Bartholomew's School, Newbury; A Coleshill, REME, Latifa School, Dubai; P E Connor, R Signals, Heath CS, Runcorn; A E Cowe, RLC, Swanmore School, Fareham; N J Cowey, RTR, Cranbrook School; A D Cox, Staffords, Romsey School; L B Cox, RE, Hornsea School; H D B Craggs, 9/12 L, Harrow School; J P Cresswell, RA, Sir John Nelthorpe School; J E O Cripps, QRL, St Peters HS, Burnham on Crouch; D M Croall, RE, Loretto School; C Croft, 9/12 L, Sherborne School; A M Crook, QLR, Bolton School; J E S Cross, Hldrs, St Edmund's School, Canterbury.

M A P d'Apice, KRH, Sherborne School; J G Daintry, Cheshire, Royal G S, Guildford; J T F Dakin, RGBWR, Clayesmore School; A C Daly, SG, Winchester Coll; T W Day, R Signals, Welbeck Coll; J P De Jonge, QDG, Eton Coll; T J Downes, R Signals, Great Wyrley HS, Walsall; D J Dray, AGC (PRO), Peterhouse School, Zimbabwe; D B Duff, QDG, Allhallows School; W G Dunlop, D and D, Canford School; R C Edger, RRW, Wellington Coll; D R Edwards, RWF, Monmouth School; D L Elding, RE, Welbeck Coll; M J Elliott, QLR, Stonehenge School, Amesbury; S J Estick, RA, Exeter School; R D E Etherington, RA, Merchant Taylors School; S R Everard, RDG, Sherborne School; R N D Follett, LI, Kimbolton School, Huntingdon; K M Fox, RA, Lytchett Minster School, Poole; R L Francis, R Signals, Welbeck Coll; A G L French, RGBWR, Malvern Coll; E C Froggatt, AGC (SPS), Howells School, Denbigh; A J Gascoyne, RLC, Repton School; E F Gentle, RRF, Bournemouth School; C W G Gladwell, PWRR, Christ's Hospital School; J B Gordon, Hldrs, Wellington Coll; M P M Grayson, IG, Eton Coll; A J Greaves, RE, Glenwood HS, Glenrothes; J E Green, Staffords, Newcastle under Lyme School; R J Green, RE, Mirfield HS, Mirfield; R J H Green, D and D, Marlborough Coll; M T Greenwood, AAC, Sackville School; C J Gregg, RE, Dalziel HS, Motherwell; G W Griffin, Green Howards, Cranbrook School; J S Griffiths, R Signals, Rivington & Blackrod HS, Bolton.

T A Hanks, RAMC, Danum CS, Doncaster; B C Hardwick, RE, Solihull School; K D Harris, AGC (PRO), Bridlington HS, Hornsea; S M J Hawkins, RA, Hurstpierpoint Coll; A F Hawley, R Anglian, Robert Pattinson School; J C Hay, AAC, Ampleforth Coll; J P Hayward, REME, Welbeck Coll; J A Hazan, RTR, Charterhouse School; F A Hearn, RLC, Berkhamsted School; N Hepburn, RA, Royal GS, Newcastle; P A Herbert, RLC, Lancaster RGS; M E Hickman, PWRR, Reigate GS; I C W Hill, D and D, Cranleigh School; R J Hinds, KOBR, The Skinners' School, Tonbridge; T L B Hinxman, RGR, Harrow School; D A Holdsworth, RE, Shrewsbury School; A M Honor, R Signals, Windsor School, Rheindahlen; W J Hopkirk, IG, Uppingham School; L C Hurn, AGC (SPS), Thorpe House School, Norwich; B M D Ingham, RA, Repton School.

D A Jackson, R Signals, Rainhill School, Prescott; T N R Jackson, LI, Cheltenham Coll; C S James, QDG, Eton Coll; A S Janaway, RE, St Mary's Coll, Southampton; D O W Jarvis, Para, The Rushcliffe School; A G Johnson, KOBR, Sedbergh School; R D Johnson, RRW, Filton Coll; C H Jones, RTR, Westville Boys HS, RSA; I L M Jones, RA, Rugby School; M I H Jones, AGC (PRO), Quantock School, Taunton; R M Jones, R Signals, Glantaf HS, Cardiff; D F Jourdan, RE, Earlham HS, Norwich; N A Kell, Int Corps, Durham School; M S Kemp, RA, Daniel Stewart's/Melville; J Kerr, RE, Lancaster GS; T J Knowles Jackson, LI, Bryanston School; G J Knox, A and SH, Dollar Academy; J A Kyffin-Topp, Scots DG, Bedstone Coll; J F Lacken, RE, St Johns R C CS, Gravesend; W K M Lawrie, SG, Wellington Coll; T C Legge, RE, Welbeck Coll; R R Lord, PWO, Colchester RGS; D M R Lucas, Gren Gds, Hampton School; T E Luker, RA, Charterhouse School; J P Q Lye, REME, Cranleigh School; S A Lyle, RLC, Ballyclare HS; W R Lynch, RA, Hanley HS, Upton on Severn; F J E Lyon, Gren Gds, Harrow School.

N D Macgregor, A & SH, Arbroath HS; A J Magro, RA, Bristol Cathedral School; J E Mardlin, RA, Bedford School; S H Marsden, RLC, Glasgow Academy; T G J Marsden, RE, St Mary's Coll, Wallasey; J W Martin, RA, St Lawrence Coll; M W Martin, RLC, St Thomas More School, Rochford; T J Matson, AGC (ETS), Lord Silkin School, Telford; J Maude, DWR, King Edward VI Coll; J W McCleery, RA, St Edward's School, Oxford; J R McElhinney, BW, The Edinburgh Academy; I C McEwan, R Irish, Dollar Academy; I McGuire, Kings, Welbeck Coll; K L McQuade, AGC (ETS), Madras Coll, St Andrews; M F Milloy, R Irish, Duke of York's RMS; I Moore, RE, King's School, Rochester; E J A Morgan, AAC, Winchester Coll; B E M Morris, RA, Monmouth School; P R D Muir, R Signals, Trowbridge Coll; J Na Nakhorn, RLC, Felsted School; L F Ngwenya, RE, Westminster School; M A P Mooney, PWRR, St George's RC School, Southampton; A R A Norton, REME, Chichester HS; C T O'Callaghan, AGC (SPS), Queen Ethelburga's Coll; D M Pascoe, RRW, Christ Coll, Brecon.

K R Patterson, AGC (SPS), Rosebery School, Epsom; S J Pedder, R Signals, St Edmund's Coll, Ware; A E Peddie, AGC (SPS), Balfron HS, Balfron; C R Phillips, QDG, Malvern Coll; R G B Pim, WG, Wellington Coll; C P A Powers, PWO, Kings School, Tynemouth; J E H Pratt, RE, Hereford Cathedral School; B P N Ramsay, WG, Downside School; M P Rawlingson-Plant, RTR, Gordonstoun School; J J Rees, RA, Barry Boys CS; C F Reeve, REME, Warwick School; J E Relph, RA, Duke of York's RMS; P D L Rennie, BW, Brighton Coll; M D Robb, AAC, Wallace HS, Stirling; F Robinson, RA, Arnold School; F A Robinson, RA, Bradford GS; A L F Robson, LD, Uppingham School; A J Rogers, REME, Birkenhead School; H C M Rogers, LI, Sherborne School; S A Rumbold, RA, Dr Challoner's GS, Amersham.

G W A Sale, RGJ, Cranleigh School; N P Sargent, RA, Stamford School; R A Scobie, RE, Carrick Academy; M C Scobie, RE, Hele's School, Plymouth; D Y Seabrook, RE, Kelly Coll; S J Shepherd, RA, Hele's School, Plymouth; G J M Simpson, IG, Rugby School; J Simpson, AGC (ETS), Berwick HS; D T Skennerton, RLC, Northgate HS, Ipswich; K D Smith, DWR, Park School, Barnstable; M J T Smith, RTR, Dulwich Coll; D B Soulsby, Scots DG, Harrow School; J A Stephenson, KRH, Wycliffe Coll; J C Stewart, R Signals, The Edinburgh Academy; R G Streatfield, RGJ, The Judd School; A S W Strong, QRH, Repton School; R M Sutcliffe, DWR, Wetherby HS; A W Swain, RE, Chipping Sodbury School.

J Taffs, RA, East Barnet School; R R Tasker, RLC, Geoffrey Chaucer School; M C Tetley, DWR, Woodhouse Grove School; J D Thirkill, BW, Ardingly Coll; L J Thirsk, R Signals, Penrhos Coll; R Threapleton, AAC, Read School, Selby; N P Thuilliez, PWRR, St Mary's Coll, Southampton; J H F Thurstan, Coldm Gds, Wellington Coll; R Todd, Para, Adwick School, Doncaster; P B A Townley, RHG/D, Ampleforth Coll; J E Toze, R Signals, Newport Free GS; M N J Trebilcock, RLC, Welbeck Coll; J S Trembath, REME, Queens Coll, Taunton.

C N Uivert, WG, Eton Coll; P Vale, 9/12 L, King Alfred's School, Wantage; S J Walden, RE, Teignmouth Community Coll; B G White, R Signals, The Portsmouth GS; D R White, RA, Toot Hill School, Bingham; J W B White, RDG, Banbridge Academy; H D Whiteman, AGC (ETS), Glenmore School, Bournemouth; S W Whittley, R Signals, Coleraine Academic Institution; D M Wilkins, AAC, Dean Close School; M T Williams, RLC, Dover GS; A J Wills, IG, Sherborne School; J P Wills, PWRR, Reigate GS; A M Wilson, SG, Eton Coll; A S Wilson, R Signals, Springwell Community School; T A Winfield, RHF, Allhallows School; A J Winter, Int Corps, Queen Elizabeth Hospital; C M Withington, RA, Hurstpierpoint Coll; D L Woods, RE, Ipswich School; M Yates, Kings, Manor School, Stockport; M E J Young, RA, Bishops Bluecoat School; R E A Youngs, AAC, Nottingham HS.

The following overseas cadets also passed out with a view to being commissioned in the Armed Forces of their countries. The winner of the Overseas Cane was Officer Cadet Sadaya Nepal.

Bahrain: Sheikh Salman Abdullah Al Khalifa; Belize: Ricardo Cirilo Leal; Botswana: Ontiretse Geoffrey Rankae; Brunei: Saifulrizal Abdul Latif; Fiji: Aisake Dksl Vuikadavu; Guatemala: Ruben Antonio Tellez Cabrera; Guyana: Michael Olton Johnson; Jamaica: Merrick Ashmeade A Lloyd, Antoine Nicholl Nembhard, Carlington John Reid; Jordan: Haethum Samih Al Butikhi; Malawai: John Kachere Gama; Mauritius: Sailesh Kumar Behary; Mozambique: Jongo-Vidicali; Nepal: Sadaya Shumsher J B Rana, Sagar Kandel Chettri; Oman: Khalifa Nasser Al Amairi; Qatar: Mohammed Ali Jaber Al Marri; Saudi Arabia: Saleh Ghalib Al Quaiti; Sierra Leone: Ibrahim Mohammed Jawara; Singapore: Ang Keng Ern Joshua; Sri Lanka: Mohamed Shazuli Hameed; Thailand: Numphol Paihoonthitipornchai; Trinidad & Tobago: Sheldon Randy Oudan; UAE: Salem Abdullah Al Dahmani.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.W. Gordon
and Miss O.L.F. Graham
The engagement is announced between Matthew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Michael Gordon, of Tattenhall, Cheshire, and Oriel, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Graham, of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire.

Mr N.J. Morgan
and Miss E.L. Palmer
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, only son of Mr and Mrs Frank Morgan, of Bush End, Essex, and Emma, younger daughter of Mr John R.W. Palmer, of Kirkmichael House, and of Mrs Carolyn Steel, of Ashintully Castle, both of Perthshire.

Mr A.G.E. Ovey
and Miss C.L. Griffin
The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Richard Ovey, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, and Charlotte, only daughter of the late Mr John Griffin and of Mrs Griffin, of Bolton, Lancashire.

Mr T.A.H. Rutter
and Miss C.H. Palmer
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Canon and Mrs A.E.H. (Claude) Rutter, of Chilson, Somerset, and Clare, younger daughter of the late Mr Nigel Palmer OBE and of Mrs Palmer, of Nether Compton, Dorset.

Mr W.F.G. Strang
and Miss E.A. Munro-Faure
The engagement is announced between Frank, youngest son of Guthrie and Morag Strang, of Bearsden, Glasgow, and Eleanor, elder daughter of Douglas and the late Honor Munro-Faure, of Woldingham, Surrey.

Mr C.P. Tozer
and Miss R.A. Hughes
The engagement is announced between Christopher Paul, son of Mr and Mrs Paul H. Tozer, of Bath, and Rachel Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gareth Hughes, of Pontefract, West Yorkshire.

Birthdays today

Mr Roger Abel, former chairman, Conoco Exploration Production, Europe, 54; Miss Elizabeth Appleby, QC, 55; Mr Kenneth Collins, MEP, 58; Admiral Sir Kenneth Eaton, 63; Air Marshal Sir Maurice Heath, 88; General Sir Patrick Howard-Dobson, 76; Sir Anthony Jolliffe, former Lord Mayor of London, 59; Dr Tommy Kemp, physician and former rugby player, 82; Professor David King, Master, Downing College, Cambridge, 58; Mr Mark Knopfler, singer, songwriter and guitarist, 52.

Mr Norris McWhirter, founder editor, *Guinness Book of Records*, 72; Mr Floris Maljers, KBE, former joint chairman, Unilever NV, 64; Sir Robin Nicholson, FRS, metallurgist, 63; Lord Renton, QC, 89; Mr Pete Sampras, tennis player, 26; Mr Jonathan Taylor, chairman, Booker, 62; Mr Peter West, sports commentator, 77; Professor Graham Zellick, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, London University, and Principal, Queen Mary and Westfield College, 49.

Legal appointment

Mr Justice Mortimer has been appointed a Vice-President of the Court of Appeal and Non-permanent Judge of the Court of Final Appeal of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China.

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BIRTHS

ALDEBAKEL - On August 4th at The Portland Hospital, to Sundus Alsane and Ibrahim, a daughter, Douha, a sister for Abdullaziz and Saad.

ALIEV - On August 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Mashrban and Ilham, a son, Beydar, a brother for Leyla and Arzu.

ASHBY - On August 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Julie (née Cade) and Liam, a daughter, Caitlin, a sister for Charlie.

BOWYER - On August 5 1997, to Barbara (née Strachan) and Harry, a son, Edmund Hunter Mitford.

CLINTON - On 8th August 1997, in Singapore, to Elizabeth (née Gordon Clark) and Gregory, a son, Inigo Francis Hasluck.

CRAWFORD - On August 4th at The Portland Hospital, to Helen and James, a daughter, Natasha, a sister for Tom.

DE-LAUREY - On Monday 4th August to Joyti and Tony, a gorgeous baby boy, Max.

EVANGELOU - On 8th August 1997 at The Royal Free Hampstead to Karen Cranswick and Mario, a daughter, Zoe.

GARDINER - On August 7th at The Portland Hospital, to Fiona Eastwood and Kevin Gardiner, a daughter, Katharine Rose, a sister for Frances May.

GROOME - On August 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Kristina and Todd, a son, Michael, a brother for Amy.

HALL-THOMPSON - On 1st August to Jennifer (née Allibone) and Charles, a son, Thomas David, a brother for Henry.

HAZUKI - On August 6th at the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, Best wishes and happiness to D Aisuke, Emiko and Haruki from Hidenori Shimizu.

HOUGH - On July 21st, to Sherri and Michael, a daughter, Georgia Bridget Mary, a sister for Harry, Edward and Ellie.

MARCHOK - On August 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Don and Maeve, a gift from God, a son, Tyler James.

MICHEL - On August 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Valerie (née Greslin) and Christian, a son, Aloïs, a brother for Winalot.

BIRTHS

PATCHETT - Nick and Isabel are pleased to announce the arrival of Harry William Edward on 9th August 1997, a brother for Rosie and Alice.

PHANG-LEE - On August 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Angus and Francesca, a son, Christopher.

RAHMAN - On July 31st at The Portland Hospital, to Nathalie (née Van Den Boogaard) and Ajmal, a son, Benjamin and a daughter Sophia.

RAIKES - On 3rd August 1997 to Emma (née Budgen) and Jason, a son, Alexander Caspian, a brother for Tom.

SHELLADY - On August 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Elizabeth (née Henderson) and Scott, a daughter, Chloë Elizabeth.

SMITH - On August 9th at Ascot, to Reg and Alexis (née Morley), a son, Thomas Sheridan, a brother for Barnaby.

SUN - on August 5th at The Portland Hospital, to Anna and Steve, a son Kory, a brother for Cheyne and Roscoe.

THOMAS - On 30th July to Alison (née Wilson) and Mark, a daughter, Sophie Elizabeth Jane.

TRELEAVEN - Lydia Frances born Friday 8th August 1997, St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London. First child of proud parents Lindie and Hamish. All well.

WATKINSON - On August 10th to Charlotte (née Holder) and Charles, a son, Hugh Benedict Charles.

WATSON - On August 4th to Helen (née Wilson) and Jules, a son, Tobias George Edward Newall.

DEATHS

BARKER - Kathleen Olive. Peacefully at Seacroft Nursing Home, West Sussex on August 8th. Widow of Stephen Geoffrey. Beloved mother of Neil and Michael. Funeral Service on Tuesday August 19th at 2.30pm, Portchester Crematorium. Donations if desired to N.S.P.C.C. or R.N.L.I. All enquires to W. Wright & Son, The Square, Emsworth. Tel: 01243 372255.

DEATHS

BENTHAM - Rosie on Sunday 10th August 1997, peacefully aged 87 years. She will be sadly missed by her very large family and many close friends: generations of girls will remember her from her years of teaching Geography at Wakefield High School, Notting Hill, Ealing High School GPDST and especially from 1947-1986 as Co-Director and Principal of Queensmount School, Bournemouth. She was for many years a Companion of the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield. A Requiem Mass will be held on Monday 18th August at 7.00pm and the Funeral Service at 12.15pm the following day at St. Alban's Church, Charminster Road, Bournemouth where she has been an active member for 50 years, followed by commital at Bournemouth Crematorium. Reception for the family will be held at Queensmount Nursing Home, 18 Queens Park West Drive, Bournemouth. Family flowers only please, but if desired, donations for a special fund for St. Alban's Church, in her memory, may be sent to Head & Wheble Funeral Directors, 1A Oxford Road, Lansdowne, Bournemouth. Telephone: 01202 551190.

BURGESS - Oswald Claude, on 7th August, suddenly. Beloved son of the late Horace and Flora Burgess and adored husband of Hazel, brother to Rosamund, Desmond and Donald and the late Graham. Marine Engineer and champion of the River Severn barrage concept. Funeral at St. Augustine's Church, Downend, Bristol on Thursday 14th August at 10am.

COULTHARD - Lulu Edith. Courageously on 7th August, aged 98 years, at Marlborough House Nursing Home, Church Crookham. Beloved mother of Linda and Aubrey, adored Granny of Samuel. Funeral details please telephone Ford Mears Funeral Directors on 01276 25563.

COVELL - On August 9th, peacefully after a short illness, David aged 60 years, of Lindfield, Sussex. Husband of the late Chris, dearest father of Andrew and Candida, loving son of Keith and the late Cora, grandfather of Olivia and father-in-law of Richard and Camilla. He will be sadly missed by Rosemary Anne, his family and friends. Funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, Cuckfield, Sussex on Friday August 15th at 12.00 noon. Flowers to R.A. Brooks & Son, Haywards Heath, Sussex, Tel: (01444) 454391.

FIRTH - Major Malcolm Vincent Chichester, on 8th August 1997. Beloved husband of Janet, loving father and grandfather. Family funeral. Thanksgiving Service, St Michael and All Angels, Urchfont on Friday 22nd August at 3pm.

GAIRDNER - John Oswald Hugh OBE Captain Royal Navy. Peacefully at Cleeve Court Nursing Home on August 10th 1997 aged 92. Much loved husband of Joyce, father of Martin, Christabel and Elizabeth and grandfather. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Wrington on Friday August 15th at 2.15pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations to RNLI may be sent to Keith C. Britton & Son Funeral Directors 10 High Street, Yatton, Bristol BS19 4JA.

HACKETT - Peter Middleton late Royal Artillery on 9th August 1997. Very dear husband of Margaret and much loved father of Edward and Kate and grandfather of Lucy, Harry, Flavia and Jamie. Private family cremation on Friday 15th August at 15.30 followed by a Thanksgiving Service at St John's Church, Broadstone at 16.30. Family flowers only. Donations to St John's Church, Broadstone. Enquiries to A.H. Griffin Funeral Directors, 6 Dunyeats Road, Broadstone. Tel: 01202 693275.

HUDSON - Rev. Edmund John on August 8th aged 76. Former Vicar of St Hilda's, Tang Hall, York and Chaplain to the Forces. Funeral 12.30 Friday August 15th at St. Hilda's.

HUDSON - Peacefully at the College of St Barnabas on 7th August, aged 80, the Reverend Thomas Bernard Hudson, MA, sometime Principal of St. Paul's College, Ambatoharanana, Madagascar and Diocesan Chancellor, brother of Mary (Sister Christine, CSD) and of Joseph. Requiem at the College on Friday 15th August at 11.00am, followed by a private cremation. Memorial gifts instead of flowers may be sent to the Warden, College of St Barnabas, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6NJ, for the College's Centenary Appeal.

LINZELL - On August 9th after a short illness Peter George aged 71 years. Much loved husband of Terry and father of Caroline and Brigitte, respected and loved grandfather and father-in-law. Funeral Service on Monday August 18th at 2.30pm at St Michael the Arch Angel, Smarden, Kent followed by burial. Flowers and enquiries c/o A.W. Court Funeral Directors, Headcorn Road, Grafty Green, Maidstone. Tel: 01622 850840.

LITHGOW - On August 8th, suddenly, Lt. Colonel W.S.F. (Col. Bill), aged 77, of South Newington, Oxon. Dear husband of Patricia, much loved father of Jane, Richard and Diana, and a loving grandfather. Family funeral on Friday, August 15th at St Peter Ad Vincula, South Newington. Memorial Service to be announced.

LYSTER - John Neal JP, TD, DL, dearly loved husband of Peggy and father of Simon and Bryony, so peacefully at home surrounded by love, on August 8th aged 78. Cremation private. A service in his memory will be held at All Saints' Church, Stock on Monday 8th September at 3pm. Please no flowers. Donations, if desired, to Essex Wildlife Trust, Colchester CO5 7DN.

NORMANTON - Sir Tom aged 80 years on August 6th, peacefully at Lymington. Private Cremation. Donations if wished to British Heart Foundation, c/o Diamond & Son F/D, Lymington, SO41 9DN.

O'CONNOR - On August 10th 1997 at Yeovil, Janet, mother of Fiona Stephens. Funeral at St Michael's Church, East Coker, on August 18th at 11.45am. Family flowers only; donations if wished to R.N.L.I. c/o G.H. Cook & Son, 8 Bond Street, Yeovil. A Memorial Service in London will be announced later.

OVEY - Katharine at Westmorland General Hospital on 7th August. Peaceful now after many battles. Much loved dear Mother of John, grandmother and friend to Clare and Jessica. She enlivened many friends with her individual and open mind, her courage and art. Funeral Service at St James's Church, Staveley on Thursday August 14th at 10.30am. Donations to the Parkinson's Disease Society 22 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0RA or Multiple Sclerosis Society 25 Essie Road, Fulham SW6 1EE, or flowers to J. W. Johnson & Son, Bridge End, Staveley, Kendal, Cumbria LA8 9LZ.

PRAGNELL - George Leonard died peacefully on August 9th aged 83. Beloved father and grandfather. Requiem Mass at the Church of St Gregory the Great, Stratford-upon-Avon on Friday 22nd August at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to the Shakespeare Hospice Appeal c/o A.E. Bennett & Sons, 34 Sheep Street, Stratford-upon-Avon CB37 6EE.

SYCROFT - David Kenneth BA D Lit. On August 8th aged 72 years in the Royal Brompton Hospital after a serious illness. Funeral Service at Colemans Hatch Church, East Sussex followed by cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The Heart/Lung Foundation c/o Royal Brompton Hospital, Chelsea, London.

SPENCER - Robert Allen, lutenist-singer, aged 65, died peacefully at home on August 8th after a long illness. He was a much-loved husband, father, grandfather, brother, teacher and friend. Cremation August 13th, family only. Memorial service, probably October, date to be announced. No flowers; donations to Royal Marsden Hospital or Musician's Benevolent Fund.

SIMPER - Barbara on August 10th, dearly loved wife of Herman, of Hasketon, Suffolk.

STOREY On August 7 1997, Iris Storey aged 80 years. Dearly loved mother of Beulah Cundy and Aurelia Storey. Formerley married to Major E M Storey (Rex). Funeral Service will be held at Putney Vale Crematorium, on Thursday 14th August 1997 at 12 noon. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Trinity Hospice C/O E Lander & Son, 246 Upper Richmond Road, SW15. Tel: 0181 788 2942.

TAYLOR - Peacefully at Mount Vernon Hospital on Friday 8th August, Betty (née Robinson) wife of the late Frederick Horace. A beloved mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Service at Holy Trinity, Northwood at 11am on Friday 15th August 1997 followed by a family cremation. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Michael Sobell House, Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, Middlesex.

WILSON - Dr. Peter Remington peacefully at home in Corfe, Nr Taunton on 10th August 1997, aged 86 years. The funeral service will take place at Taunton Deane Crematorium on Friday 15th August at 1.30 p.m. Family flowers only, donations in memory for the Red Cross may be sent to E. White & Son Ltd., Funeral Directors, 138/139 East Reach, Taunton TA1 3HN.

BIRTHDAYS

K.C. - This is not just a birthday wish, it is a hug in a newspaper. Love G.

WANTED

PRE 1940's clothes, linen, lace, fans, patchwork quilts, embroideries, samplers, oriental articles, shawls, textiles, costume jewellery etc 0171 229 9618

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BIRCH REYNARDSON - The Thanksgiving Service for Nik will be held in St Mary's Church, Thame at 3 p.m. on Thursday 28th August and afterwards at Adwell.

SILVER ANNIVERSARIES

STONE:CHAWSTON - On 12th August 1972 at St Mary's R.C. Church Kings Lynn, Norfolk, William John to Joanna Daphne.

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DONALD CRICHTON-MILLER

Donald Crichton-Miller, TD, former public school headmaster, died on August 5 aged 90. He was born on December 7, 1906.

Donald Crichton-Miller was among Britain's most highly regarded headmasters when, in 1958, he was sought out by the school governors to take charge of Stowe.

A Cambridge rugby Blue and Scottish international, he had been made Headmaster of Taunton School at the astonishingly early age of 29. There, according to one of his successors John Rae in his own autobiography *Delusions of Grandeur*, Crichton-Miller "had taken Taunton apart and put it together again in better shape".

Nine years later he had started a similar job at Fettes, his own old school in Edinburgh, where he doubled the number of pupils during his time there and made it one of the best sports schools in the country. Moving to Stowe at the height of his powers, aged 52, he should have looked forward to winning still more golden opinions, particularly as he had taught there as a young man.

But things *then went badly* wrong. His robust, authoritarian style which, according to Rae, had "inspired great loyalty" at Taunton and later at Fettes, was resented by a number of Stowe's senior housemasters. Moreover, some of these, as is often the way in such closed communities, maintained their own private lines to the governors — especially to those of them who were old boys of the school.

Arguments over discipline and admissions, fuelled by this damaging clash of personalities, led to a struggle for power — and eventually to an independent inquiry led by a QC. Rather prejudicially, Crichton-Miller himself was suspended while it was held.

Still, the inquiry found in his favour. But Crichton-Miller was then accused of leaking its findings. Charged with betraying a confidence, he was hauled in by the chairman of the governors and told he could either resign or be summarily sacked. Given five minutes to make up his mind, he chose the former — and stepped into premature retirement after only five years at the school. It seemed a sad end to a career which had promised so much.

Donald Crichton-Miller was born in San Remo, Italy, the son of one of Britain's leading psychiatrists Hugh Crichton-Miller, founder of London's Tavistock Clinic. Crichton-Miller senior had at one time divided his practice between Aviemore in the Highlands in the summer and San Remo in the winter.

But the family stemmed from Edinburgh, so it was to Fettes that Hugh Crichton-Miller sent his son shortly after the First World War. There he not only became head boy but demonstrated his early rugby prowess as a wing forward.

He also won a history exhibition to Pembroke College, Cambridge. He spent four years at university, which was fortunate, because in his fourth year he won his Blue — in those days a significant embellishment to any schoolmaster's CV. He also won several caps for Scotland, attracting attention by his speed and adventurism — and some criticism for not pulling his weight in the scrum.

His sporting reputation and contacts, however, helped him to get his first teaching appointment as an assistant master at Monmouth School in 1929. He moved to Bryanston two years later, then to the newly founded Stowe for his first spell at the school in 1934, teaching history and English under the famous J. F. Roxburgh. His first headship at Taunton began in 1936.

A captain in the Territorial Army, he was called up on the outbreak of the war to serve with the Royal Scots Fusiliers. But Taunton School suffered so badly from his absence that he was discharged from the Army after a year to return to his study — *on condition that* he ran its Officer Training Corps (OTC). He also had to help to organise accommodation for two other schools which had been evacuated there during the war.

An active member of the Church of Scotland, Crichton-Miller taught divinity throughout his time as a headmaster. But his strengths and his principal interest lay in administration and school governance. He was chosen to carry out education surveys for Pakistan in 1951 and Malta in 1956, which illustrates his then growing reputation.

A *strong man in terms of* physique and personality, he exuded a presence which few questioned. It was said that he was loved by his pupils and feared by his staff — but respected by all.

Boys at Taunton dubbed him "the Monarch", and when he appeared on the touchline at the schools rugby match, his own school broke into loud spontaneous cheering.

One theory about what went wrong at Stowe involves an incident towards the end of his time at Fettes. He discovered, to his great shame and disappointment, that a number of *prefects had been smoking in* the hall porter's office — in flagrant breach of school rules. Moreover, this had been going on under his nose.

Although he dealt swiftly and severely with the culprits, expelling the school's head boy, his confidence was said to have been shaken. At Stowe, therefore, he decided to stamp his authority on the school from the outset — so running full-tilt into opposition.

In retirement, however, he accepted a number of school governorships, of both fee-paying and state schools, and retained close contacts with those in which he himself had taught. These included Stowe, whose new headmaster always made him feel welcome.

Donald Crichton-Miller married his wife Monica in 1931. They met at Cambridge where she was a Girton undergraduate and lacrosse Blue. She survives him together with two sons and a daughter.

ROBERT SPENCER

Robert Spencer, lutenist, died of cancer on August 8 aged 65. He was born on May 9, 1932.

ROBERT SPENCER was influential in many spheres of British musical life — performance, teaching, collecting and scholarship. A founder-member of the Bream Consort, he also played lute and guitar for the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford-upon-Avon and theorbo continuo for Raymond Leppard's ground-breaking early opera productions at Glyndebourne in the 1960s.

This experience with the stage set him apart from many colleagues in the early music movement. Spencer was passionate about the theatricality of performance, as a soloist, as an accompanist and as a teacher at the Royal Academy of Music.

A singer himself, he was a remarkably sensitive accompanist, working with Wilfred Brown, Janet Baker, James Bowman, Michael Chance and many others. Perhaps his most notable partnership was with Alfred Deller, taking over from Desmond Dupré as his accompanist and patiently transposing Deller's repertoire progressively down by semi-tones as the countertenor's voice began to deepen *with age*.

Spencer was a fine lute soloist in his own right, with a large, rich tone, but he never converted from playing with flesh and nails in the guitar fashion to the so-called "PI" technique, taking runs with the thumb and index finger, which is now *de rigueur* for lutenists. He grew increasingly self-conscious about this, and sadly gave up playing altogether a few years ago.

Spencer was appointed a professor at the Royal Academy of Music in 1974 and also taught at the Royal College, the Guildhall School of Music and countless summer schools around the world. His early English song classes at the Academy were highly successful, and many singers, including leading professionals now specialising in all periods and styles, benefited from Spencer's insights into Dowland and Purcell.

Never pedantic, and highly sceptical of those advocating "period pronunciation" and strict adherence to treatises, Spencer had a gift for teaching *singers how to communicate* directly with the audience, especially through words and gestures.

Spencer was a noted authority on early English music and on the 19th-century guitar, publishing many scholarly articles and editions. He lectured *and examined at* Oxford and King's College London and was frequently consulted by Sotheby's and the British Library about manuscripts and old editions. But perhaps his greatest achievement was as a collector himself.

Not a person of independent means, he, nevertheless, through shrewd dealing and a good eye, amassed one of the greatest collections of 16th and 17th-century English printed music, manuscripts and books, superior in some respects even to those of the British Library and the Bodleian. His prized possessions were a lute book bearing the coat of arms of Queen Elizabeth I and the only extensive writing in the hand of John Dowland, the lutenist-composer. He also assembled *a fine collection of Renais*sance and Baroque lutes and guitars, all meticulously maintained in playing condition, together with furniture, paintings and other illustrations of musicians.

Spencer was liked and respected by everyone who knew *him. He dedicated his life to* his students and the many singers he accompanied. But the abiding memory of his closest colleagues will have is of a soloist: several years ago, in the midst of a gruelling North American tour with the Deller Consort, Spencer, so sick with 'flu that he could barely walk on stage, played Dowland's Melancholy Galliard in a manner which was both tragic and uplifting, going straight to the hearts of the audience, most of whom had never before heard a note of Dowland.

He is survived by his wife, Jill Nott-Bower, the actress-singer, and two sons.

DRUM MATTHEWS

Drum Matthews, FRS, geophysicist, died of a heart attack on July 20 aged 66. He was born on February 5, 1931.

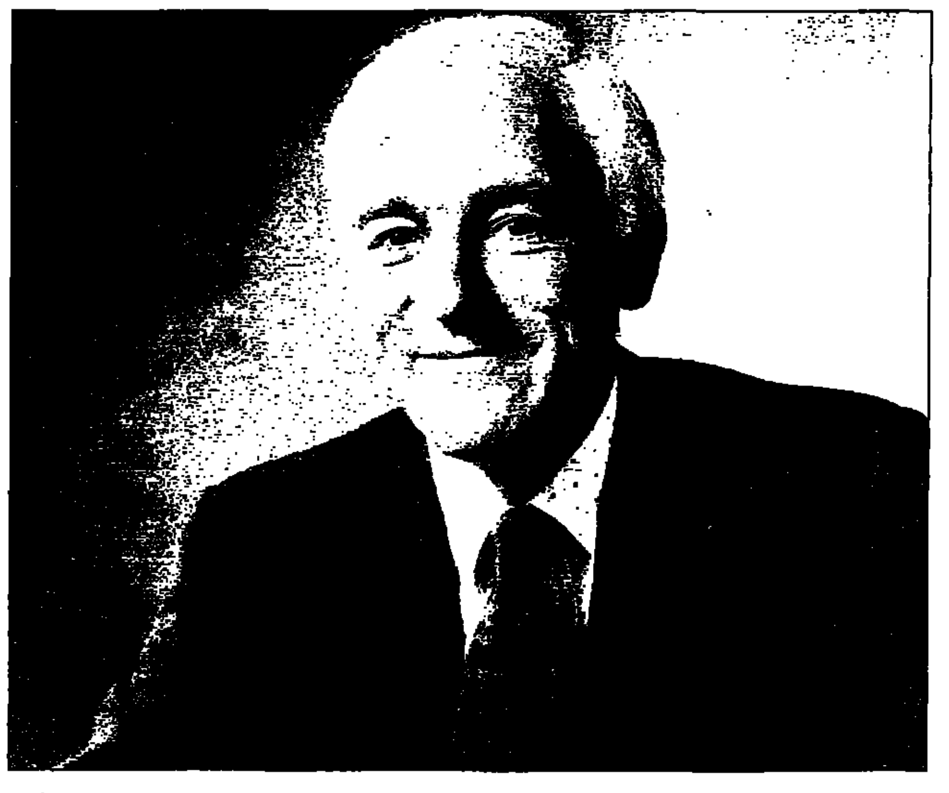
DRUM MATTHEWS was a distinguished geophysicist whose scientific discoveries in the 1960s helped to bring about the "plate tectonics revo*lution*", *overturning conven*tional geological wisdom and explaining the origins of the oceanic crust. Later, in the 1980s, he turned his attention to the study of the continents, and he led Britain's national effort in deep seismic reflection profiling until his retirement in 1990.

*Drummond Hoyle Mat*thews was educated at Bryanston before doing National Service as an officer in the Royal Navy and taking a degree in natural sciences at King's College, Cambridge. From 1955 to 1957 he carried out sometimes arduous field *work with the Falkland Is*lands Dependencies Survey (now the British Antarctic Survey).

He would later blame the high-fat field rations on which he had to survive during this period in his life for causing lasting damage to his health — he suffered from diabetes and consequent *heart* problems. But it was during these years, too, that he first came into contact with the then heretical ideas of continental drift — ideas more current in the southern hemisphere than in either Europe or North America.

*Matthews returned to Cam*bridge in 1958 to work for his PhD under Maurice Hill, studying basalts dredged from the deep sea-floor of the eastern North Atlantic Ocean. Remaining in Cambridge as a Research Fellow of King's, then as head of the marine geophysics group from 1966, *he led* many research cruises, particularly in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans and in the Mediterranean.

It was data acquired during the International Indian Ocean Expedition in 1962 that prompted his most influential discovery, published with his *then doctoral student Fred* Vine in *Nature* in 1963. Vine and Matthews noted that the pattern of magnetic stripes that cover the ocean floor (known since the early 1950s) could be explained by ideas of ocean-floor spreading and periodic reversals of the Earth's magnetic field. This work *led* irresistibly to widespread acceptance of the ideas of continental drift, the impermanence of oceanic crust, and to plate tectonics, so providing the paradigm which underpins all geological theories of the past quarter-century. The reaping of this harvest occu*pied Drum and his graduate* students, many of whom later became distinguished colleagues, for many years.



By the late 1970s the plate-tectonics revolution had led to much greater understanding of mid-ocean ridges and of oceanic evolution. Matthews sought new scientific challenges in the study of the continents, which defied (and still defy) understanding in the same detail. Together with Derek Blundell, he initiated the British Institutions' Reflection Profiling Syndicate (BIRPS), the first successful national deep seismic-reflection programme to be established in Europe, and the first to undertake widespread crustal-penetrating continental seismic profiling at sea.

He led BIRPS from its foundation in 1980 until he took early retirement after a heart attack in 1990. He *presided over an enormous* data-collection effort and over the resulting growth in understanding brought about by the application of deep reflection profiling to the task of mapping the British Isles for the first time in the third — vertical — dimension. One of the cross-section profiles most commonly seen in today's undergraduate textbooks was named DRUM (Deep Reflections from the Upper Mantle) in his honour by his colleagues, and exemplifies the *power of this geophysical tech*nique to penetrate ever-deeper (more than 50 miles down) into the Earth.

Matthews was much loved not only for his leadership and encouragement of younger scientists, but also for his quirky and often whimsical sense of humour. The name BIRPS gave much entertainment (the second word in its name was originally to have been "Universities"). Matthews once delighted in lecturing an eminent audience on "BIRPS *above — deep gas below?*", and earlier in his career was happy to discover a new oceanic deep adjacent to the Peake Deep, which he was then able to name the Frean Deep.

On his retirement from Cambridge University Matthews accepted the accolade of having a building named in his honour, with the proviso that it be called not the Matthews Building but the Drum Building. He regarded life and scientific inquiry as a *great adventure, which he* shared freely. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1974.

Drum Matthews was twice married. He is survived by his widow Sandie, who brought great joy to the last ten years of his life, and by his first wife Rachel and their son and daughter.

ON THIS DAY

August 12, 1865

Edward Whymper (1840-1911) made the first ascent of the Matterhorn (14,692 ft) on July 13, 1865. A terrible tragedy occurred on the descent — four of his companions fell to their deaths.

ALPINE ASCENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,— No one will dispute the moral you draw in your article of yesterday from Mr. Whymper's account of the accident on the Matterhorn. Allow me to suggest another — viz., that in all mountain expeditions involving risk one man of the party should be invested with the authority and responsibilities of captain. It would obviously fall within his province to put a veto on the further advance of any one of the party who might show symptoms of failing powers, to decide where a choice of routes was open, to enforce all due precautions as to the tying of the party with proper ropes at proper distances, &c.; to give with authority the necessary cautions to the less experienced climbers, and to check anything like rashness or carelessness on their part. Suppose that on the late occasion Mr. Whymper had been invested with this sort of authority, we may surmise that he would have thought it right to prevent Mr. Hadow's going on when he observed that his experience seemed inadequate to the work. We may feel certain that he would not only have suggested but enforced the precaution of attaching ropes to the rocks, to aid the descent at certain points. In either case, the accident would probably not have happened. Let me not he understood as implying the faintest shadow of blame to Mr. Whymper under the actual circumstances. He had no command over the rest of the party: it would be cruel injustice to throw on him a responsibility which could only arise out of such command. That he did all he could, his well-earned reputation for skill and caution, as well as courage in mountain work, and, I may add, the manly and feeling tone of his letter, form an ample guarantee. The moral simply is that the most tried abilities and the best will may be present in vain, where "what is everybody's business becomes nobody's business."

It may be asked, is not the guide, or the chief guide if there are more than one, the natural leader of the party? I should say that no guide could take the command of a party in the full sense I mean — except, of course, where he was conducting mere novices, which is not the sort of case I contemplate ... It is enough to say that the guide's position is an anomalous one. On one side the fittest of all, from skill and experience, to lead, on the other side he is but the servant of the party. Hence you may have from him outspoken advice, warning, and remonstrance, but you will not have the decisive exercise of authority. I am well aware that the choice of a captain may often be a delicate matter, and his duties when chosen disagreeable, and requiring some moral courage to perform. Still, as to the first point — put the only difficult case, where two or more skilled mountaineers of equal pretensions are of the party, at the worst they can draw lots, or can take the command in rotation — while the sanction of usage once given to the captain's position, we need not fear the lack of moral courage to perform the duties among the type of men whose qualities and performances are likely to point them out for the post.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Aug. 10. G.M.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUNG CHELSEA BRIDGE club and school (18-40 age group). Tel: 071-373 1665

LEGAL NOTICES

HRS Process Engineering Limited
Registered number: 1664187
Nature of business: Engineering
Trade classification: 07
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 31 July 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): Midland Bank Plc
P R Copp and A P Supperstone Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder no(s) 1788 and 2073) of BDO Stoy Hayward 8 Baker Street London W1M 1DA

HRS Spiratube Limited
Registered number: 1542032
Former company name: Process Plant UK Limited
Nature of business: Engineering
Trade classification: 07
Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 31 July 1997
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): Midland Bank Plc
P R Copp and A P Supperstone Joint Administrative Receivers (office holder no(s) 1788 and 2703) of BDO Stoy Hayward 8 Baker Street London W1M 1DA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROBURSA SECURITIES LIMITED
COMPANY NUMBER: 2776702
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the liquidator of the above company intends to make a distribution to the creditors within four months of Friday 12 September 1997. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims to the liquidator, Peter Joseph Beirne at KPMG Corporate Recovery, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday September 1997 which is the last day for proving claims. The full details of claims, referred to above, must include the creditor's name and address, the amount of the claim and particulars of how and when the debt was incurred by the company. Notice is also given that the intended distribution is a final distribution and will be made without regard to any claims not made by the last day for proving claims. All funds remaining in the liquidator's hands following the final distribution to creditors shall be distributed to the shareholders absolutely.
Note: The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated: 4 August 1997
Peter Joseph Beirne - Liquidator

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

FIELDMAN, FLORA CONSTANCE of 145 SALMON STREET, KINGSBURY, LONDON NW9 8NG died on 21st JULY 1997. Particulars to UNDERWOOD & CO, Solicitors, 40 WELBECK STREET, LONDON W1M 8LN before 15th OCTOBER 1997.

LEGAL NOTICES

PANCON SERVICES LIMITED
AND
PANCON SYSTEMS LIMITED
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Companies will be held at the offices of Chantrey Vellacott, Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London WC1B 5LF on 26th August 1997 at 3.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the Companies creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5LF between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
Dated 4th August 1997
By Order of the Board
Chris Chapman, Director

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Please send Court Page announcements by post/fax to:
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TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
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OR
FAX: 0171 481 9313
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

Choose your fantasy team

HOW TO PLAY

- You have £35 million to spend on a team of 11 players and a manager.
- You must pick 1 GOALKEEPER, 2 FULL BACKS, 2 CENTRAL DEFENDERS, 4 MIDFIELD PLAYERS, 2 STRIKERS, 1 MANAGER.
- You must not exceed your budget of £35 million. You must not pick more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club. If after a real-life transfer, you find you have three players from one club in your team, you must sell one of them. No player may be picked twice.
- Players and the manager must be chosen from Interactive Team Football category lists, which include code numbers and values.
- Your players and manager will accumulate points in all 1997-98 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from Saturday August 9 onwards.
- The team with the most points at the end of the season will win the £50,000 first prize. You may enter as many teams as you like whenever you like. Readers entering a mini-league should tick the box on the application form. There is no additional charge.

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS

POINTS AWARDED

GOALKEEPER	
Keeps clean sheet (per half)*	+3 points
Scores goal	+20 points
Saves penalty	+1 point
FULL BACK / CENTRAL DEFENDER	
Keeps clean sheet†	+3 points
Scores goal	+4 points
MIDFIELD PLAYER	
Keeps clean sheet†	+1 point
Scores goal	+3 points
STRIKER	
Scores goal	+2 points
ALL PLAYERS	
On winning side	+1 point
Appearance††	+1 point
Scores hat-trick	+10 bonus points
MANAGER	
Wins	+3 points
Draws	+1 point

*Must have played a complete half in the match to earn +3 points

†† Must have played for 75 minutes in the match † Must have played for 45 minutes in the match

POINTS DEDUCTED

GOALKEEPER	
Concedes goal	-2 points
FULL BACK / CENTRAL DEFENDER	
Concedes goal	-1 point
ALL PLAYERS	
Sent off	-5 points
Booked	-1 point
Concedes penalty	-1 point
Misses penalty	-1 point
Scores own goal	-1 point
MANAGER	
Team loses	-1 point

TRANSFERS

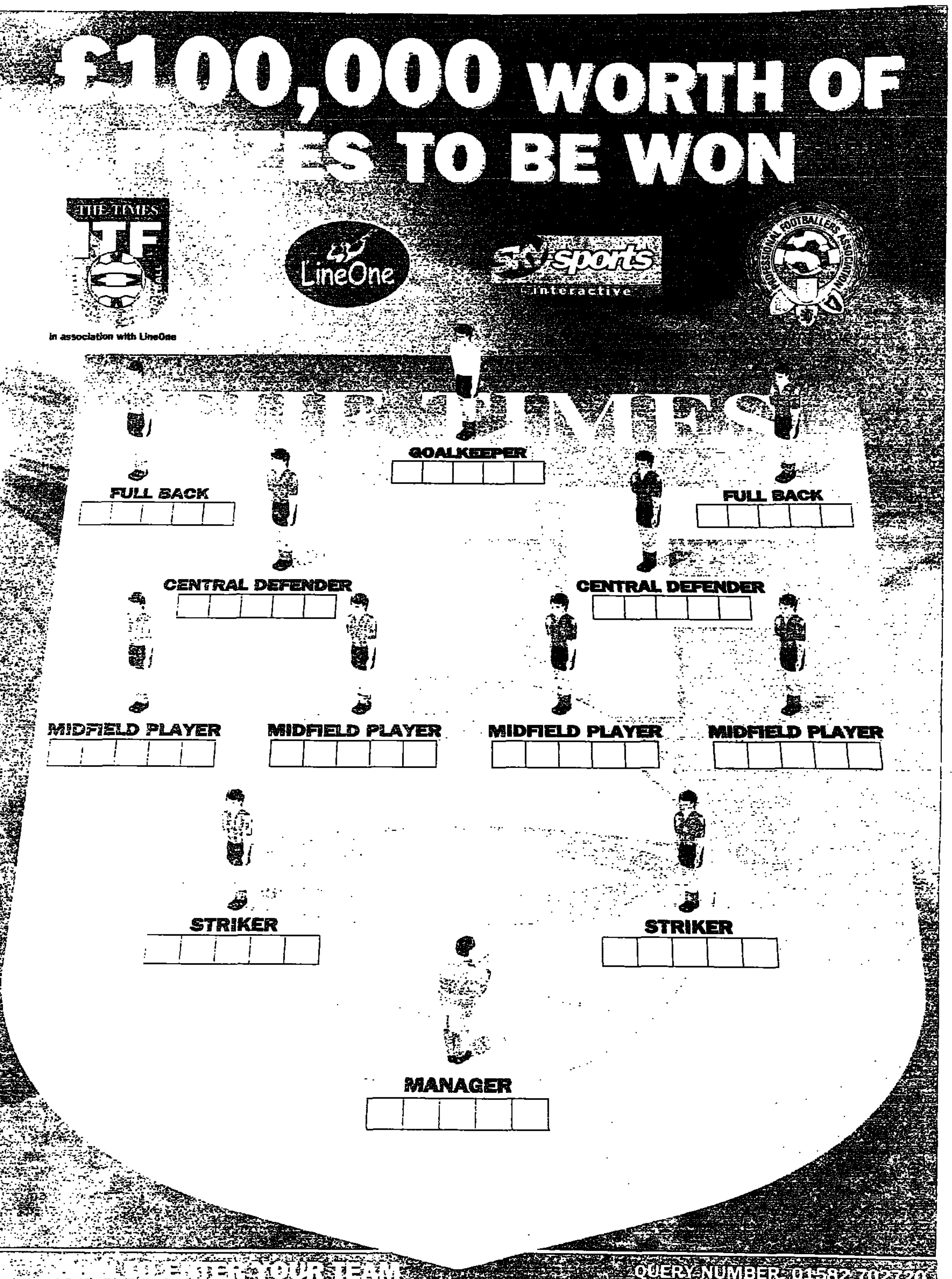
Each team entered by August 9 will be allocated 60 transfers for the season. Thereafter the transfer allocation will be decreased by 2 transfers each week up to December 13 when all teams registered on that day will be allocated an extra 20 transfers. Teams registered after this date will be allocated 20 transfers for the season. Full details of how to transfer will appear in *The Times* regularly during the season.

HOW TO ENTER YOUR TEAM

- **FOR POST AND FAX** See the entry form below
- **BY TELEPHONE: 0891 405 011 (UK)**
  +44 990 100 308 (Republic of Ireland)
  Select your team and follow the simple step-by-step instructions. Tap in the full set of selections (using the five-digit player codes) for each of your chosen players and manager. You will be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters). Finally you will be given a ten-digit personal identification number (PIN). Calls cost 50p per minute. Each call lasts about eight minutes.
- **BY the Internet**
  ITF is available on *The Times* website (www.the-times.co.uk). The Internet version enables you to enter the game and play for the entire season, giving you access to league tables, fixture lists, player records and your team history.
- **BY LineOne**
  You can enter ITF free on LineOne. This includes all transfers and checking throughout the season. For your software which includes one month's free membership of LineOne plus ten hours' access to LineOne and the Internet call 0800 111 210. For more information visit the LineOne website at www.LineOne.net.
- **BY Sky Sports Interactive**
  Play ITF with Sky Sports Interactive on 0891 770 700 (calls charged at 50p per minute). Details on Sky Text page 118.

£100,000 WORTH OF PRIZES TO BE WON

In association with LineOne



HOW TO ENTER YOUR TEAM **QUERY NUMBER: 01582 702720**

Entries received by noon on August 9 will have started scoring from the beginning of the season with 60 transfers. See above for details of how the number of transfers decreases as the season progresses. All entrants will receive a letter of confirmation and notification of their personal identification number (PIN) and team with complete terms and conditions.

TEAM NAME ____________ (Max 16 characters)
Goalkeeper ____________
Full back ____________
Full back ____________
Central defender ____________
Central defender ____________
Midfielder ____________
Midfielder ____________
Midfielder ____________
Midfielder ____________
Striker ____________
Striker ____________
Manager ____________

THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL ENTRANTS

First Name ....
Surname ....
Address ....
Postcode .... Daytime Tel ....
Cheque / PO No. ....

This year ITF will incorporate separate mini leagues. Please tick the correct league(s) for your entry.

☐ ITF League ☐ Women's League ☐ Student League ☐ Youth League (Under 18)

Which age group are you? (TICK BOX)

1. 18-24 ☐ 2. 25-34 ☐ 3. 35-44 ☐
4. 45-54 ☐ 5. 55-64 ☐ 6. 65+ ☐

How often do you read *The Times*?

Less than once a week ☐ 1-3 times a week ☐ 4-6 times a week ☐

How often do you read *The Sunday Times*?

Less than once a month ☐ 1-2 times a month ☐ 3-4 times a month ☐

Do you have a PC at home? Yes ☐ No ☐

If you do not wish to receive other offers from Times Newspapers, please tick box ☐

Send your entry with £2 entry fee (entrants outside the UK or Rep of Ireland £10 sterling) to: The Times Interactive Team Football, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1ZZ.

FOR FAX ENTRY, FILL IN CREDIT CARD DETAILS BELOW

Fax your entry to: UK 0660 600 563
Outside UK +44 171 649 1726

Credit Card Number ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry date ☐☐/☐☐
Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Name on card....................
(Supply address of registered cardholder if different from above)
Signature .... Name ....
Address ....
Postcode .... Daytime Tel ....

** Calls cost 50p per minute*

THIS IS NO FANTASY

ITF Entry in The Times Interactive Team Football 1997.
One month's FREE membership of LineOne
10 hours FREE access to LineOne's minute-by-minute football news and the Internet.

When it comes to playing The Times Interactive Team Football you can see that LineOne puts you ahead of the game. Not only does it give you all the latest results and match reports from Sky, but also all the news, commentary and analysis from The Times, The Sunday Times and the Internet.

Through LineOne you can also chat to your competitors and seek the views of other football fans. You can even set up LineOne to bring you all the information about your own team as soon as it is available.

Who knows? With access to all this football information, winning the title might just become a reality.

Call for your FREE trial of LineOne and the Internet now on 0800 111 210

LineOne

One FREE entry into ITF via LineOne including all transfers. This is worth £8.

هدية من الأهل

and be £50,000 champions

The new season is upon us — and so is your chance to play Interactive Team Football (ITF) in the hope of winning £50,000. The opening weekend of the season unveiled an array of dazzling talent from all around the world performing on the British stage. And there is the lure of the most glittering prize of all — the World Cup — at the end of it.

To match the excitement, ITF has returned with a bigger and better game, and, although the first weekend of the FA Carling Premiership has come and gone, there is still time to enter. *The Times*, in association with LineOne and Sky Sports Interactive, is offering you the chance to show your football knowledge by selecting a team from the best players in Britain — those in the Premiership and the leading clubs in the Bell's Scottish League. That expertise will be rewarded with a £50,000 prize for the winning team selector plus £10,000 for the second prize and £5,000 for the team coming third. Then a further £1,000 goes to the selector of the best team of the month (plus a signed Mitre football, a Mitre sports bag and Premiership tickets).

Then there is the new FA Cup prize. Every team entered into the ITF league will automatically be entered into the FA Cup league. Points scored by your players in FA Cup matches will be entered both in the main ITF league and in the special FA Cup league. The winner of the FA Cup league will be awarded £10,000.

That is not all. New this year are three special mini-leagues running concurrently with the ITF league: a Women's League, the Mitre Students League and the Dairy Crest Youth League for under-18s. The winning team in each category will win a trip for two to the World Cup in France next year. Monthly prizes of Premier League tickets, Mitre footballs signed by Stuart Pearce and Mitre sports bags will also be awarded in each league for the manager of the month.

In the *Times* ITF league, you are pitting your selectorial skills not only against other readers of *The Times* but also against those even more in the know. With the support of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), current Premiership players have been encouraged to enter sides of their own.

SEVEN GOOD REASONS TO PLAY ITF

- More prize money — £100,000 worth of prizes to be won
- New FA Cup league with a prize fund of £10,000 for the winner, with automatic inclusion and no extra work or cost
- New mini-leagues for women, students and young entrants *with separate monthly prizes and overall prizes of trips to the* World Cup for each league winner
- 60 transfers with more flexibility for more control over your team
- Special hat-trick bonus introduced
- Revaluation of players: the value of players will go up and down through the season so, with careful selection, you can juggle your funds to buy more top names
- Easy to enter: six different ways (post, fax, telephone, Skytext, Internet and LineOne)

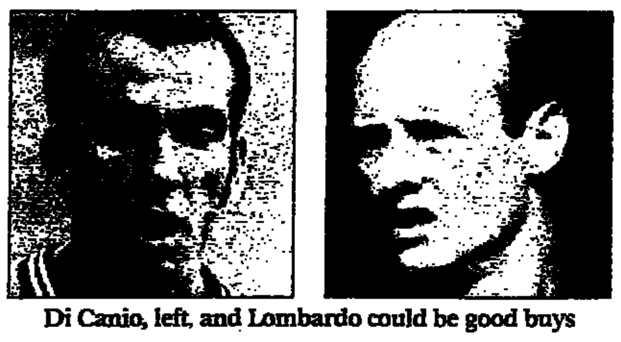
TRANSFERS THIS WEEK

IN

41005	Attilio Lombardo	(Crystal Palace)	£2.5m
51103	Francesco Baiano	(Derby County)	£2.0m
52003	Karlheinz Riedle	(Liverpool)	£4.5m

MOVED

20501	Graeme Le Saux *(from Blackburn Rovers)*	(Chelsea)	£4.0m
42503	Regi Blinker *(from Sheffield Wednesday)*	(Celtic)	£1.5m
50702	Paolo di Canio *(from Celtic)*	(Sheffield Wednesday)	£6.5m



Di Canio, left, and Lombardo could be good buys

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

You may transfer as and when you wish according to your team transfer allowance. If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You may adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

The line is open now and will remain open for the rest of the season. You may only make transfers by using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need ten digits for your PIN which you will have to tap in (not speak). Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players that you are transferring.

You may make up to four transfers per telephone call but may make as many calls as you wish to achieve the required amount of transfers.

Transfers made before 12 noon on any day will become effective for matches starting after that time. Transfers made after 12 noon will become effective for matches starting after 12 noon the following day.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

Calls cost 50p per minute and calls from a telephone box cost approximately twice as much.

Transfer number: 0891 884 622
Outside the UK: +44 990 200 538

Riedle has made a good impression with Liverpool — but is he the man for your team?

Code	Name	Team	Price
10101	Jim Leighton	Aberdeen	2.0
10201	David Seaman	Arsenal	5.0
10301	Mark Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.0
10401	David Watson	Barnsley	1.0
10501	Tim Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.5
10601	Keith Branagan	Bolton Wanderers	1.5
10701	Stewart Kerr	Celtic	4.0
10801	Ed de Goey	Chelsea	3.0
10901	Steve Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.5
11001	Carlo Nash	Crystal Palace	1.0
11002	Kevin Miller	Crystal Palace	2.0
11101	Mart Poom	Derby County	1.5
11201	Sieb Dykstra	Dundee United	3.0
11301	Ian Westwater	Dunfermline	1.0
11401	Neville Southall	Everton	2.0
11501	Gilles Rousset	Hearts	1.5
11601	Chris Reid	Hibernian	1.0
11701	Dragoje Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.0
11801	Nigel Martyn	Leeds United	3.5
11901	Kasey Keller	Leicester City	2.0
12001	David James	Liverpool	3.5
12101	Peter Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.0
12201	Scott Howie	Motherwell	1.0
12301	Shay Given	Newcastle United	4.0
12401	Andy Goram	Rangers	5.0
12501	Kevin Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
12601	Alan Main	St Johnstone	0.5
12701	Maik Taylor	Southampton	1.5
12801	Ian Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.0
12901	Ludek Miklosko	West Ham United	2.0
13001	Neil Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.5

Code	Name	Team	Price
20201	Lee Dixon	Arsenal	3.0
20202	Nigel Winterburn	Arsenal	3.0
20301	Steve Staunton	Aston Villa	3.0
20302	Alan Wright	Aston Villa	3.0
20303	Simon Grayson	Aston Villa	2.5
20304	Fernando Nelson	Aston Villa	2.0
20401	Nicky Eaden	Barnsley	0.5
20402	Neil Thompson	Barnsley	0.5
20502	Jeff Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	2.0
20503	Patrick Valery	Blackburn Rovers	2.0
20601	Neil Cox	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
20602	Robbie Elliott	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
20701	Tommy Boyd	Celtic	3.5
20702	Tosh McKinlay	Celtic	3.5
20703	Jackie McNamara	Celtic	3.0
20501	Graeme Le Saux	Chelsea	4.0
20801	Dan Petrescu	Chelsea	4.0
20802	Celestine Babayaro	Chelsea	2.5
20901	David Burrows	Coventry City	1.0
20902	Brian Borrows	Coventry City	1.0
20903	Marcus Hall	Coventry City	1.0
21001	Dean Gordon	Crystal Palace	1.5
21002	Marc Edworthy	Crystal Palace	1.5
21003	Kevin Muscat	Crystal Palace	1.0
21101	Chris Powell	Derby County	1.5
21102	Dean Yates	Derby County	1.0
21401	Andy Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.5
21402	Earl Barrett	Everton	1.5
21403	Terry Phelan	Everton	1.5
21501	Gary Locke	Hearts	1.5
21701	Dylan Kerr	Kilmarnock	1.0
21801	Gary Kelly	Leeds United	2.5
21802	David Robertson	Leeds United	2.5
21901	Mike Whitlow	Leicester City	1.5
21902	Steve Guppy	Leicester City	1.5
22001	Stig Inge Bjornebye	Liverpool	4.0
22002	Jason McAteer	Liverpool	4.0
22101	Denis Irwin	Manchester United	4.0
22102	Gary Neville	Manchester United	3.5
22103	Phil Neville	Manchester United	3.5
22301	Steve Watson	Newcastle United	3.0
22302	Warren Barton	Newcastle United	2.0
22303	John Beresford	Newcastle United	1.5
22304	Stuart Pearce	Newcastle United	3.0
22401	Alex Cleland	Rangers	3.0
22402	Stalle Stensaas	Rangers	3.0
22501	Patrick Blondeau	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
22502	Ian Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.0
22701	Jason Dodd	Southampton	1.0
22702	Francis Benali	Southampton	0.75
22703	Simon Charlton	Southampton	0.75
22801	Clive Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
22802	Justin Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.0
22901	Julian Dicks	West Ham United	3.0
22902	Andy Impey	West Ham United	1.5
23001	Ben Thatcher	Wimbledon	2.0
23002	Kenny Cunningham	Wimbledon	2.0
23003	Alan Kimble	Wimbledon	2.0

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	Price
30101	Brian O'Neil	Aberdeen	2.0
30201	Tony Adams	Arsenal	3.5
30202	Martin Keown	Arsenal	3.5
30203	Gilles Grimandi	Arsenal	2.0
30301	Gareth Southgate	Aston Villa	3.5
30302	Ugo Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.5
30401	Arjan de Zeeuw	Barnsley	1.0
30402	Adrian Moses	Barnsley	0.5
30403	Matty Appleby	Barnsley	0.5
30501	Henning Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.0
30502	Colin Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.0
30601	Gerry Taggart	Bolton Wanderers	1.5
30602	Gudni Bergsson	Bolton Wanderers	1.0
30603	Chris Fairclough	Bolton Wanderers	1.0
30701	Enrico Annoni	Celtic	3.0
30702	Malky MacKay	Celtic	3.0
30703	Alan Stubbs	Celtic	3.0
30801	Frank Leboeuf	Chelsea	3.0
30802	Michael Duberry	Chelsea	3.0
30803	Steve Clarke	Chelsea	2.5
30804	Bernard Lambourde	Chelsea	2.5
30901	Liam Daish	Coventry City	1.5
30902	Richard Shaw	Coventry City	1.5
30903	Paul Williams	Coventry City	1.5
31001	Andy Roberts	Crystal Palace	1.5
31002	Andy Linighan	Crystal Palace	0.75
31003	David Tuttle	Crystal Palace	0.75
31101	Igor Stimac	Derby County	2.5
31102	Jacob Laursen	Derby County	1.5
31201	Steven Pressley	Dundee United	3.0
31301	Greg Shields	Dunfermline	1.5
31401	Slaven Bilic	Everton	3.0
31402	Dave Watson	Everton	2.0
31403	David Unsworth	Everton	2.0
31501	David Weir	Hearts	2.0
31601	John Hughes	Hibernian	1.5
31801	David Wetherall	Leeds United	2.0
31802	Gunnar Halle	Leeds United	2.0
31803	Robert Molenaar	Leeds United	2.0
31804	Lucas Radebe	Leeds United	1.5
31901	Matt Elliott	Leicester City	3.0
31902	Pontus Kaamark	Leicester City	2.0
31903	Steve Walsh	Leicester City	1.5
32001	Mark Wright	Liverpool	3.0
32002	Dominic Matteo	Liverpool	3.0
32003	Bjorn Kvarme	Liverpool	3.0
32101	David May	Manchester United	3.5
32102	Gary Pallister	Manchester United	3.5
32201	Martin van der Gaag	Motherwell	1.5
32301	Philippe Albert	Newcastle United	3.0
32302	Darren Peacock	Newcastle United	3.0
32303	Steve Howey	Newcastle United	2.0
32304	Alessandro Pistone	Newcastle United	3.0
32401	Sergio Porrini	Rangers	3.5
32402	Joachim Bjorklund	Rangers	3.5
32403	Lorenzo Amoruso	Rangers	3.5
32501	Des Walker	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
32502	Jon Newsome	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
32503	Peter Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
32601	Stuart McCluskey	St Johnstone	0.5
32701	Richard Dryden	Southampton	1.0
32702	Claus Lundekvam	Southampton	1.0
32703	Ulrich van Gobbel	Southampton	1.0
32801	Sol Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	3.0
32802	John Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
32803	Ramon Vega	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
32804	Colin Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
32901	Rio Ferdinand	West Ham United	2.5
32902	Richard Hall	West Ham United	2.0
32903	Steve Potts	West Ham United	1.5
33001	Chris Perry	Wimbledon	2.5
33002	Dean Blackwell	Wimbledon	2.5

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	Price
40101	Eoin Jess	Aberdeen	3.0
40102	Paul Bernard	Aberdeen	2.0
40201	Marc Overmars	Arsenal	5.5
40202	Patrick Vieira	Arsenal	3.5
40203	Stephen Hughes	Arsenal	2.5
40204	Ray Parlour	Arsenal	2.5
40205	David Platt	Arsenal	1.5
40301	Mark Draper	Aston Villa	4.0
40302	Ian Taylor	Aston Villa	2.5
40303	Andy Townsend	Aston Villa	2.0
40401	Neil Redfearn	Barnsley	3.0
40402	Eric Tinkler	Barnsley	2.0
40403	Darren Sheridan	Barnsley	1.0
40404	Martin Bullock	Barnsley	0.5
40501	Jason Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
40502	Billy McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
40503	Tim Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
40504	Garry Flitcroft	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
40601	Alan Thompson	Bolton Wanderers	3.0
40602	Scott Sellars	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
40603	Per Frandsen	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
40604	Michael Johansen	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
40605	Jamie Pollock	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
40701	Andreas Thom	Celtic	4.5
40702	Phil O'Donnell	Celtic	3.0
40703	Peter Grant	Celtic	1.5
40704	Craig Burley	Celtic	3.0
42503	Regi Blinker	Celtic	1.5
40801	Dennis Wise	Chelsea	4.0
40802	Roberto di Matteo	Chelsea	4.0
40803	Eddie Newton	Chelsea	2.5
40804	Gustavo Poyet	Chelsea	2.0
40901	Gary McAllister	Coventry City	2.5
40902	Trond Egil Soltvedt	Coventry City	1.5
40903	John Salako	Coventry City	1.5
41002	Simon Rodger	Crystal Palace	1.0
41003	Darren Pitcher	Crystal Palace	0.25
41004	Paul Warhurst	Crystal Palace	1.5
41005	Attilio Lombardo	Crystal Palace	2.5
41101	Aljosa Asanovic	Derby County	2.5
41102	Stefano Eranio	Derby County	2.5
41103	Darryl Powell	Derby County	1.5
41104	Christian Dailly	Derby County	1.5
41105	Robin van der Laan	Derby County	1.0
41106	Jonathan Hunt	Derby County	1.0
41201	Robbie Winters	Dundee United	3.5
41301	Andy Smith	Dunfermline	2.0
41302	Derek Fleming	Dunfermline	1.5
41401	Gary Speed	Everton	3.5
41402	Joe Parkinson	Everton	1.5
41403	Gareth Farrelly	Everton	1.5
41501	Neil McCann	Hearts	2.5
41601	Chris Jackson	Hibernian	2.0
41602	Barry Lavety	Hibernian	2.0
41701	Jim McIntyre	Kilmarnock	2.0
41001	David Hopkin	Leeds United	3.5
41801	Lee Bowyer	Leeds United	3.0
41802	Alf Inge Haaland	Leeds United	2.5
41803	Lee Sharpe	Leeds United	2.5
41901	Garry Parker	Leicester City	2.0
41902	Neil Lennon	Leicester City	2.0
41903	Muzzy Izzet	Leicester City	2.0
41904	Scott Taylor	Leicester City	1.5
42001	Steve McManaman	Liverpool	7.0
42002	Oyvind Leonhardsen	Liverpool	4.0
42003	Michael Thomas	Liverpool	3.0
42004	Jamie Redknapp	Liverpool	3.0
42005	John Barnes	Liverpool	2.5
42006	Paul Ince	Liverpool	5.0
42101	David Beckham	Manchester United	8.0
42102	Ryan Giggs	Manchester United	7.0
42103	Roy Keane	Manchester United	5.0
42104	Nicky Butt	Manchester United	4.0
42105	Andy Cole	Manchester United	5.0
42201	Billy Davies	Motherwell	2.0
42301	Robert Lee	Newcastle United	5.0
42302	Keith Gillespie	Newcastle United	3.5
42303	David Batty	Newcastle United	2.5
42401	Brian Laudrup	Rangers	8.0
42402	Paul Gascoigne	Rangers	6.0
42403	Jonas Thern	Rangers	4.0
42404	Jorg Albertz	Rangers	4.0
42501	Benito Carbone	Sheffield Wednesday	3.0
42502	Mark Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
42504	Graham Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	1.0
42601	Attila Sekerlioglu	St Johnstone	0.75
42701	Jim Magilton	Southampton	1.5
42702	Robbie Slater	Southampton	0.75
42703	Neil Maddison	Southampton	0.75
42801	Andy Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	3.0
42802	Darren Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	3.0
42803	Ruel Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
42804	David Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.0
42805	David Ginola	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
42901	Eyal Berkovic	West Ham United	2.5
42902	Steve Lomas	West Ham United	2.5
42903	John Moncur	West Ham United	2.0
42904	Michael Hughes	West Ham United	1.5
43001	Robbie Earle	Wimbledon	4.5
43002	Neil Ardley	Wimbledon	2.0
43003	Vinny Jones	Wimbledon	2.0
43004	Carl Hughes	Wimbledon	1.5

STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	Price
50101	Billy Dodds	Aberdeen	5.0
50201	Ian Wright	Arsenal	7.5
50202	Dennis Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.5
50301	Dwight Yorke	Aston Villa	7.5
50302	Stan Collymore	Aston Villa	7.0
50303	Savo Milosevic	Aston Villa	3.0
50401	Georgi Hristov	Barnsley	1.5
50402	John Hendrie	Barnsley	1.5
50403	Clint Marcelle	Barnsley	1.0
50501	Kevin Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	4.0
50502	Martin Dahlin	Blackburn Rovers	4.0
50503	Chris Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	3.0
50601	John McGinlay	Bolton Wanderers	3.0
50602	Nathan Blake	Bolton Wanderers	2.5
50701	Jorge Cadete	Celtic	8.0
50703	Tommy Johnson	Celtic	3.5
51601	Darren Jackson	Celtic	4.0
50801	Gianfranco Zola	Chelsea	7.0
50802	Mark Hughes	Chelsea	5.0
50901	Dion Dublin	Coventry City	5.0
50902	Darren Huckerby	Coventry City	3.0
50903	Noel Whelan	Coventry City	2.5
51001	Neil Shipperley	Crystal Palace	2.5
51002	Dougie Freedman	Crystal Palace	2.5
51003	Bruce Dyer	Crystal Palace	2.0
51101	Dean Sturridge	Derby County	4.0
51102	Ashley Ward	Derby County	2.0
51103	Francesco Baiano	Derby County	2.0
51201	Andy McLaren	Dundee United	3.0
51202	Kjell Olofsson	Dundee United	2.5
51301	Gerry Britton	Dunfermline	2.0
51401	Duncan Ferguson	Everton	5.0
51402	Nicky Barmby	Everton	3.0
51403	Graham Stuart	Everton	2.5
51501	John Robertson	Hearts	3.5
51701	Paul Wright	Kilmarnock	5.0
51702	Ally Mitchell	Kilmarnock	2.5
51801	J F Hasselbaink	Leeds United	3.0
51803	Rod Wallace	Leeds United	1.5
51901	Steve Claridge	Leicester City	4.5
51902	Emile Heskey	Leicester City	4.5
51903	Ian Marshall	Leicester City	2.0
52001	Robbie Fowler	Liverpool	8.5
52002	Patrik Berger	Liverpool	3.0
52003	Karlheinz Riedle	Liverpool	4.5
52101	O G Solskjaer	Manchester United	7.5
52102	Teddy Sheringham	Manchester United	7.0
52103	Paul Scholes	Manchester United	6.0
52201	Owen Coyle	Motherwell	3.0
52202	Tommy Coyne	Motherwell	3.0
52301	Alan Shearer	Newcastle United	10.0
52303	Faustino Asprilla	Newcastle United	3.5
52401	Marco Negri	Rangers	3.5
52402	Sebastian Rozental	Rangers	3.5
52403	Gordon Durie	Rangers	3.0
50702	Paolo di Canio	Sheffield Wednesday	6.5
52501	Andy Booth	Sheffield Wednesday	4.0
52502	David Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
52503	Richie Humphreys	Sheffield Wednesday	2.0
52601	George O'Boyle	St Johnstone	1.5
52602	Roddy Grant	St Johnstone	1.0
52701	Matt Le Tissier	Southampton	7.0
52702	Egil Ostenstad	Southampton	4.0
52703	Michael Evans	Southampton	2.0
52302	Les Ferdinand	Tottenham Hotspur	7.5
52801	Steffen Iversen	Tottenham Hotspur	3.5
52802	Chris Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	3.5
52901	John Hartson	West Ham United	3.0
52902	Paul Kitson	West Ham United	3.0
52903	Iain Dowie	West Ham United	1.5
53001	Marcus Gayle	Wimbledon	4.0
53002	Efan Ekoku	Wimbledon	4.0
53003	Dean Holdsworth	Wimbledon	3.0

MANAGERS

Code	Name	Team	Price
60101	Roy Aitken	Aberdeen	2.5
60201	Arsène Wenger	Arsenal	4.5
60301	Brian Little	Aston Villa	3.5
60401	Danny Wilson	Barnsley	0.5
60501	Roy Hodgson	Blackburn Rovers	3.0
60601	Colin Todd	Bolton Wanderers	1.5
60701	Wim Jansen	Celtic	4.0
60801	Ruud Gullit	Chelsea	3.5
60901	Gordon Strachan	Coventry City	1.0
61001	Steve Coppell	Crystal Palace	0.75
61101	Jim Smith	Derby County	1.0
61201	Tommy McLean	Dundee United	3.0
61301	Bert Paton	Dunfermline	1.0
61401	Howard Kendall	Everton	2.0
61501	Jim Jefferies	Hearts	1.5
61601	Jim Duffy	Hibernian	1.0
61701	Bobby Williamson	Kilmarnock	1.0
61801	George Graham	Leeds United	2.0
61901	Martin O'Neill	Leicester City	1.5
62001	Roy Evans	Liverpool	4.0
62101	Alex Ferguson	Manchester United	5.0
62201	Alex McLeish	Motherwell	1.0
62301	Kenny Dalglish	Newcastle United	4.5
62401	Walter Smith	Rangers	5.0
62501	David Pleat	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
62601	Paul Sturrock	St Johnstone	0.5
62701	Dave Jones	Southampton	0.75
62801	Gerry Francis	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
62901	Harry Redknapp	West Ham United	1.5
63001	Joe Kinnear	Wimbledon	2.0

THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY AUGUST 12 1997

NEWS

Nolan inquiry into Lords' interests

■ Lord Nolan is expected to launch the first investigation into standards in the House of Lords after hundreds of peers failed to register their financial interests.

Barely half of the 600 regular attenders have listed any consultancies or directorships, including Lord Parkinson, the Conservative Party Chairman who was in the forefront of the Opposition's campaign against Lord Simon of Highbury over his failure to declare his £2 million BP shareholding ....**Page 1**

6,000 sex offenders on register

■ Six thousand names will go on to the national sex offenders' register immediately it comes into effect at the beginning of next month, the Home Office said. A further 3,500 names are expected to be added every year to the register, which will be held on the national police computer.......................**Pages 1, 17**

Cruiser hits bridge

Twenty-seven people, including nine Britons, were injured, one seriously, when a cruiser on the Seine rammed the Pont Royale in Paris after an electronic navigation error..........................**Page 1**

Helicopter crash

At least two men died when their chartered Bell Jet Ranger helicopter crashed in flames beside the M6 near Lancaster. No vehicles were hit by debris and traffic continued to flow ....**Page 1**

Prescott intervenes

John Prescott surprisingly intervened in Foreign Office affairs by ordering an investigation into why five young African priests have been refused visas to visit Britain..............................**Page 2**

Essex jokes are off

Essex council is to counter the feckless image of Essex Man and his high-heeled moll which is undermining investment opportunities in the county...............**Page 3**

Prayer for Dana

A pilgrimage to Knock turned into a political rally when Roman Catholics asked God to make the former singer Dana the next President of Ireland................ **Page 4**

The lying camera

The Press Complaints Commission was urged to review its code of practice after *The Mirror* faked a picture of Diana, Princess of Wales with Dodi Fayed....**Page 5**

NHS loss leaders

Drug companies are milking the NHS by selling hospitals costly brand-name products at a discount knowing that patients will insist on the same drugs from their GPs later ....**Page 6**

Football crazy

The rules of football were codified in 1862 as *The Simplest Game*, our series on Victorian Britain explains. The FA Cup was established in 1872 and quickly became immensely popular..........**Page 7**

Arts for all

With 14,297 performances on the Edinburgh Festival fringe alone, performances are taking place anywhere and everywhere — including in a lorry and a jelly-shaped nylon tent ......**Pages 8, 15**

Rat paradise

The city of Wroclaw in Poland has been taken over by rats as the Oder floodwaters recede. They are so well fed that the rat-catchers cannot tempt them .....**Page 9**

Peace progress

American efforts to revive the Middle East peace process made headway as Israeli and Palestinian intelligence chiefs met amid Palestinian protests ....**Page 10**

Red-hot sex files

Two months before Indian independence sensational files on the sex lives of the maharajahs were burnt by the Raj because they lent themselves to blackmail..**Page 11**

The King is dead — long live the King

■ Thousands of British Elvis fans and impersonators will be at Graceland, the Presley mansion in Memphis, to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the death of the King this Saturday. The Elvis afficionados will journey on to Los Angeles and Hawaii where the official British fan club will treat four couples to an Elvis and Priscilla-style "Hawaiian Blue" wedding...... **Page 3**

TIM GRAHAM

The Prince of Wales, Prince William and Prince Harry disembarking from *Britannia* on their way to Balmoral yesterday

BUSINESS

Swiss victory: Martin Ebner, the Swiss financier who is keen to reorganise the country's moribund financial services sector, had his first victory as Credit Suisse and Winterthur Group announced their intention to merge ....**Page 23**

Watchdog: Howard Davies, the chairman of the new super City watchdog, has moved swiftly to fill senior posts ....**Page 23**

Pressing: United Utilities will today be pressed to name a departure date for its executive chairman, Sir Desmond Pitcher...............**Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 0.6 points to close at 5031.9. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 101.3 to 102.1 after a rise from $1.5787 to $1.5904 and from DM2.9249 to DM2.9489 ...**Page 26**

SPORT

Cricket: Despite the Ashes series defeat England's management intends to offer Michael Atherton the captaincy in the West Indies this winter, probably with Adam Hollioake as his deputy.... **Page 44**

Football: Manchester United have signed Henning Berg from Blackburn Rovers for £5 million. Liverpool have given John Barnes a free transfer............................ **Page 44**

Rugby union: Bath have joined the hunt for Gregor Townsend, the Scotland and British Isles stand-off half, who now seems certain to leave Northampton............**Page 41**

Motor racing: Damon Hill is on holiday after his remarkable drive in the Hungarian Grand Prix which so nearly brought a totally unexpected victory............ **Page 42**

Garden ornament: The powerful sculptures of Stephen Cox are enriching Sir John Soanes's Dulwich Picture Gallery inside and out in a bold initiative ....**Page 14**

Solo flight: The young pianist Evgeny Kissin made history as the first solo performer to give a full-length recital at the Proms — but the results were mixed ......**Page 14**

Fringe forward: Benedict Nightingale awards Edinburgh's first theatre honours to *The Suicide* at the Traverse, Nikolai Erdman's satire banned by Stalin..............**Page 15**

Rite stuff: The honour of conducting the opening concert of the Edinburgh Festival went to Pierre Boulez, with a thrilling performance of Ravel, Bartók — and Boulez ....**Page 15**

Joy of Lourdes: Sue Corrigan was sceptical about Lourdes, but when she took her severely disabled son on a pilgrimage there, she found joy and compassion ....**Page 12**

Club life: Jason Cowley reports on New York's club kids, a group of narcotised nihilists who did not tell police when one of their leaders confessed to murder...........**Page 13**

It's in the post: Rodney Hobson reports on growing hopes in the small business community that what is being called a "£20 billion scandal", the problem of late payment, is being tackled......**Page 30**

Body check: An artist has been charged with stealing body parts but the laws on disposal of human remains are vague ....**Page 33**

Children at war: Rwanda has a rare and delicate problem: what does it do with thousands of children accused of involvement in war atrocities?........................**Page 35**

Failed decolonisations, so numerous since the 1960s, do not all happen in the same way. Far from stifling the nationalist sentiment, poverty can exacerbate it. Moreover, the loss of identity can inspire an irresistable nostalgia for a return to the empire — *Le Figaro*

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ STYLE
Denim is back . . . particularly for skirts — but it has to be deep indigo

■ INTERFACE
Any colour you like . . . so long as it's beige. Why won't hi-tech designers create more stylish PCs?

TV LISTINGS

Preview: *Cadfael: The Rose Rent.* Derek Jacobi dons the monk's habit to solve another brutal murder in medieval England (ITV 8.30pm). **Review:** If ITV can produce documentaries with Hollywood stars like *In The Wild: Pandas with Debra Winger*, why not *Newsnight* with Chris Evans? ....**Page 43**

OPINION

Registers and rights

In operating the paedophile register it is hugely difficult to strike the right balance between protecting children and liberties, but the Government seems to have chosen a properly modest and moderate position..............................**Page 17**

Democratic deficit

A stiff course of house-training lies ahead for Asia's younger tigers. Since Thailand let the baht float — or, more accurately, sink — greater realism has abruptly begun to temper the almost mystical faith of international investors in the management of the region's economies ....**Page 17**

All creatures

The search for exotic species does not lie simply in the past. It continues into the future............ **Page 17**

LIBBY PURVES

Maybe all the prevailing violence and machismo of popular culture appeals only because we have grown so wet in real life....**Page 16**

MAGNUS LINKLATER

A House of Commons without Tam Dalyell seems inconceivable. This, after all, *is not* just any backbencher. This is the man who torpedoed Margaret Thatcher over the *Belgrano*...........................**Page 16**

ANATOLE KALETSKY

One lesson, which laymen often forget to their great cost, can be drawn: there is no such thing as financial gravity; in financial markets what goes up does *not* necessarily come down ....**Page 16**

Donald Crichton-Miller, former headmaster; **Drum Matthews**, geophysicist; **Robert Spencer**, lutenist..................................**Page 19**

British policy in Ulster; brownfield sites; motorcycle enthusiasts; road-tax dodgers; gap year........ **Page 17**

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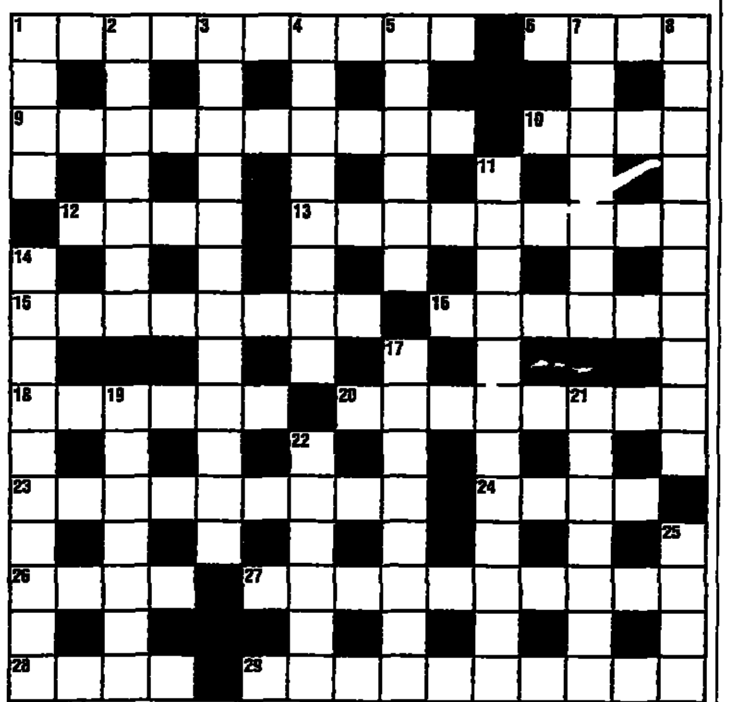

ACROSS

1 Working class secure in depression at the outset (4-6).
6 Leaders of British Legion's Old Comrades' association (4).
9 Money deposited in dance centre gaining unquestioned admission (10).
10 A saintly band? (4).
12 Flag of Eire put out last (4).
13 Violent sort of force needed to get acknowledgments of debt (9).
15 Censure as river fish suffer record inroads (8).
16 Fluff emptied in heap of rubbish (6).
18 Cool reception for eminence in outskirts of Canterbury (6).
20 Malice reflected in story not to be relied on (8).
23 Deplore drop in value after single withdrawal (9).
24 Irrational and stupid sailor dismissed (4).
26 Lack of authorisation for retreat (4).
27 Unorthodox medic gives suitable reward to dog (4-6).
28 Girl with new uniform (4).
29 With support, hand down authority to abandon ship (5,5).

DOWN

1 Stiff substance (4).
2 Release peacemakers — scrap's over (7).
3 A slight ailment to bear (4,8).
4 Suffered humiliation in ruining of castle (4,4).
5 Atmosphere in which soldiers fixed skylights (6).
7 Begin to lose one's temper (4,3).
8 Terribly derelict, so kept from public view (10).
11 Sole weakness of a Greek hero? Yes and no (8,4).
14 Church support for writer introducing revision of creed as priority (10).
17 Driver in desert arrived with sly look (8).
19 Little rascal learning to beg (7).
21 Holy man's headgear seen at tribe's assembly (7).
22 It's hard to prop up girl with outsize footwear (6).
25 American Indian has fishing gear but no line (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,555

P	L	A	Y	I	N	G	C	A	R	D		D	O	E
E		C		N		R		D		E		E		L
W	A	T	E	R	F	A	L	L		M	U	F	T	I
		E		O		P		I		I		I		Z
R	A	D	I	A	T	E		B	E	G	O	N	I	A
U				D		V				O		A		B
N	A	R	K	S		I	N	A	U	D	I	B	L	E
N		E				N		R				L		T
I	N	C	U	M	B	E	N	T		F	R	E	S	H
N		O		O				E		U				A
G	O	N	D	O	L	A		M	A	N	X	M	A	N
M		D		C		U		I		G		A		
A	P	I	S	H		D	I	S	C	O	L	O	U	R
T		T		E		E		I		I		R		O
E	W	E		R	A	N	K	A	N	D	F	I	L	E

Times Two Crossword, page 44

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises:	Sun sets:
5.41 am	8.29 pm
Moon sets	**Moon rises**
-	3.05 pm

Full moon August 18

London 8.29 pm to 5.43 am
Bristol 8.38 pm to 5.53 am
Edinburgh 8.56 pm to 5.40 am
Manchester 8.44 pm to 5.45 am
Penzance 8.46 pm to 6.08 am

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 43.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the second half of 1996

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales very warm and humid with some sunshine. Not quite as hot as recently. Heavy, possibly thundery showers likely in Wales and southwest England; the odd thundery downpour elsewhere. Scotland and Northern Ireland very warm with spells of hazy sunshine, but showers likely in N Ireland and western Scotland, and some sea-mist along the Scottish east coast.

Tonight, showers in the east will die away; western England, much of Wales and southwestern Scotland will have showers.

☐ **London, SE, Cent S, E, NE England, Channel Is, E Midlands, E Anglia:** Very hot and humid with sunshine and isolated thundery showers. Light and variable wind. Max 29C (84F)

☐ **W Midlands, NW, Cent N England, Lakes:** Very warm with cloud and sunshine, thundery downpours possible by afternoon. Light and variable wind. Max 26C (79F).

☐ **SW England, Wales, IoM:** Warm but mainly cloudy with growing chance of heavy and thundery showers. Mist possible along coast. Light S wind. Max 25C (77F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland:** Warm and quite sunny inland with a light SE wind. Max 24C (75F); much cooler on the coast with mist and fog.

☐ **SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** Fairly warm. Spells of sunshine but a growing risk of showers. Light SE wind. Max 25C (77F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** Banks of cloud and mist, but a few sunny spells and a light SE wind. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **Outlook:** Fresher with heavy showers in Scotland and N Ireland. Eastern England and Wales will have warm sunshine.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

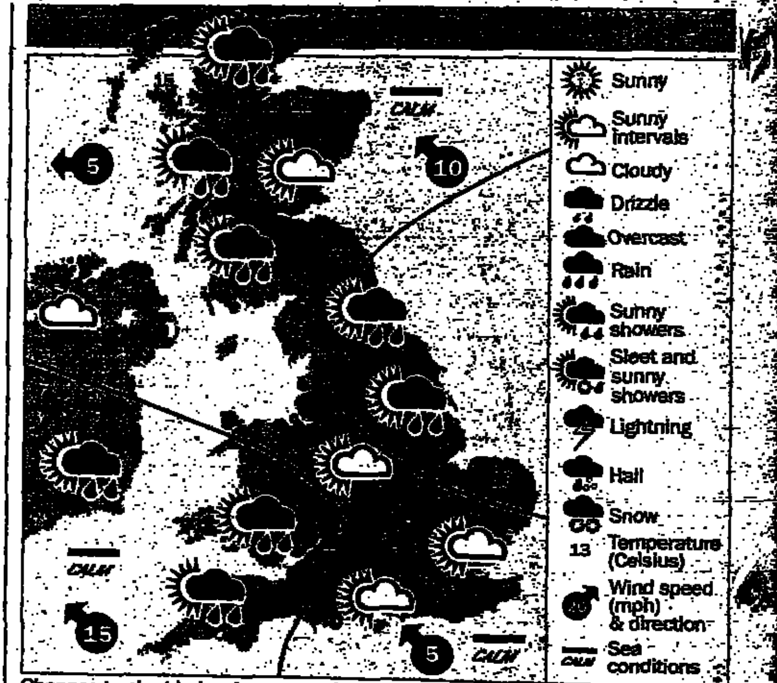
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.01	18	64	d	Kinloss	1.2	-	21	70	b
Aspatria	1.7	0.02	23	73	r	Lerwick	9.0	-	17	63	s
Aviemore	3.1	0.01	21	70	c	Leuchars	-	0.01	18	64	fg
Belfast	10.7	0.01	24	75	s	Littlehmptn	2.2	-	26	79	b
Birmingham	1.8	0.01	29	84	c	London	4.8	-	31	88	b
Bognor R	2.5	-	26	79	c	Lowestoft	11.2	-	24	75	s
Bournem'th	0.6	0.01	23	73	c	Manchester	0.2	0.01	26	79	c
Bristol	2.0	-	26	79	r	Margate	10.1	-	27	81	s
Buxton	2.2	0.01	24	75	du	Minehead	7.8	-	26	79	s
Cardiff	4.7	-	25	77	b	Morecambe	1.8	0.01	24	75	f
Clacton	12.9	-	23	73	s	Newcastle	1.5	-	23	73	b
Colwyn Bay	2.2	0.12	23	73	c	Newquay	8.1	-	24	75	s
Cromer	11.6	-	25	77	s	Norwich	11.4	-	28	82	s
Dunbar	1.2	-	17	63	fg	Oxford	2.7	0.01	28	82	b
Eastbourne	5.9	0.01	22	72	s	Poole	1.0	0.01	25	77	c
Edinburgh	-	0.01	17	63	fg	Ross-o-wye	1.0	0.17	24	75	sh
Eskdalemuir	1.6	0.01	23	73	f	Salcombe	7.2	-	23	73	s
Exmouth	6.2	-	23	73	s	Saunton Snd	5.4	-	26	79	s
Falmouth	9.3	-	21	70	s	Shrewsbury	1.5	0.98	23	73	r
Folkestone	10.5	-	28	82	s	Southend	10.7	-	28	82	s
Glasgow	1.9	0.02	20	68	r	Southport	1.6	0.01	25	77	c
Guernsey	2.1	0.01	25	77	b	Southsea	12.3	-	27	81	c
Hastings	9.2	-	25	77	s	Stornoway	6.5	0.01	21	70	s
Hayling I	3.0	-	24	75	b	Swanage	0.5	-	22	72	c
Herne Bay	10.0	-	29	84	s	Teignmouth	6.0	-	25	77	s
Hove	4.6	-	25	77	b	Tenby	8.4	-	23	73	s
Hunstanton	9.9	-	31	88	s	Tiree	10.7	0.02	23	73	s
Isle of Man	4.5	-	22	72	s	Torquay	6.2	-	25	77	s
Isle of Wight	1.0	-	25	77	c	Tynemouth	-	-	19	66	fg
Jersey	0.8	0.12	23	73	c	Weymouth	0.8	0.02	21	70	s

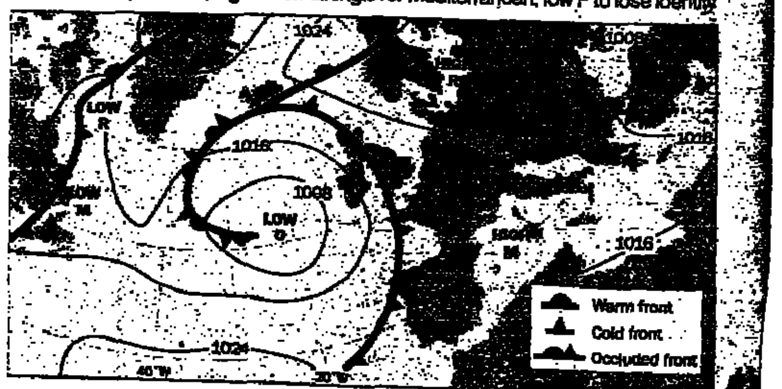
ABROAD

Ajaccio	30	86	s	Corfu	30	86	s	Madrid	26	79	f	Riyadh	41	106	s
Akrotiri	28	82	s	C'phagn	25	77	s	Majorca	30	86	f	Rome	30	86	s
Alex'dria	30	86	s	Dublin	19	66	f	Malaga	28	82	s	S Fr'sco	19	66	f
Algiers	33	91	f	Dubrovnik	28	82	s	Malta	35	95	c	Salzburg	25	77	s
Amst'dm	31	88	s	Faro	24	75	s	Melb'rne	14	57	s	Santiago	22	72	s
Athens	29	84	f	Florence	33	91	s	Mexico C	23	73	s	Seoul	31	88	f
B Aires	20	68	s	Frankfurt	29	84	s	Miami	28	82	s	Sing'pr	32	90	s
Bahrain	38	100	s	Funchal	25	77	s	Milan	29	84	s	St'kholm	25	77	s
Bangkok	31	88	f	Geneva	25	77	s	Montreal	29	84	s	Strasb'rg	29	84	s
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	28	82	f	Moscow	23	73	s	Sydney	14	57	s
Barcelona	28	82	s	Helsinki	27	81	s	Munich	25	77	s	Tangier	23	73	s
Beirut	30	86	f	Hong K	29	84	sh	N Delhi	31	88	f	Tel Aviv	32	90	s
Belgrade	17	63	f	Innsbrck	25	77	s	N York	29	84	s	Tenerife	28	82	s
Berlin	28	82	f	Istanbul	27	81	s	Nairobi	20	68	f	Tokyo	33	91	s
Bermuda	X			Jeddah	38	100	s	Naples	33	91	s	Toronto	27	81	f
Biarritz	22	72	r	Jo'burg	20	68	s	Nice	29	84	s	Tunis	37	99	f
Borde'x	33	91	f	Karachi	X			Oslo	25	77	f	Valencia	28	82	f
Brussels	30	86	s	L Angels	22	72	s	Paris	30	86	s	Vanc'ver	23	73	s
Budapest	27	81	f	L Palmas	25	77	s	Peking	33	91	s	Venice	28	82	s
Cairo	33	91	s	Le Touqt	30	86	s	Perth	12	54	f	Vienna	19	66	f
Cape Tn	13	55	c	Lisbon	23	73	f	Prague	23	73	s	Warsaw	25	77	s
Ch'church	17	63	X	Locarno	27	81	s	Reykjavik	12	54	s	Wash'ton	24	75	c
Chicago	27	81	s	Luxembg	27	81	s	Rhodes	28	82	s	Well'ngton	13	55	X
Cologne	28	82	s	Luxor	40	104	s	Rio de J	18	64	f	Zurich	26	79	s

Temperatures at midday local time on Sunday X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: low O slow moving and will fill; high R to drift south, similar pressure; high M remaining over Mediterranean; low P to lose identity



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	08.03	6.1	20.21	5.8	Leith	09.16	4.5	21.51	4.5
Aberdeen	07.58	3.5	20.40	3.5	Liverpool	05.21	7.6	18.03	7.5
Avonmouth	00.47	10.4	13.15	10.0	Lowestoft	04.09	2.2	16.22	2.2
Belfast	05.33	3.1	18.03	2.9	Margate	06.20	4.0	18.41	[illegible]
Cardiff	00.33	9.7	13.01	9.4	Milford Haven	00.06	6.5	12.40	[illegible]
Devonport	-	-	12.06	4.5	Newquay	11.40	5.4	-	-
Dover	05.09	5.5	17.42	5.5	Oban	-	-	12.37	[illegible]
Dublin (N Wall)	06.22	3.3	18.53	3.3	Penzance	11.08	4.3	23.38	[illegible]
Falmouth	11.37	4.3	-	-	Portland	00.22	1.4	13.02	[illegible]
Greenock	06.33	3.0	19.22	2.8	Portsmouth	05.34	3.8	18.12	[illegible]
Harwich	06.03	3.4	18.26	3.3	Shoreham	05.13	4.7	17.52	[illegible]
Holyhead	04.39	4.6	17.25	4.5	Southampton	04.56	3.9	17.32	[illegible]
Hull (Albert D)	00.25	7.2	12.49	7.1	Swansea	00.05	7.6	12.40	[illegible]
Ilfracombe	-	-	12.21	7.0	Tees	10.31	4.3	23.12	[illegible]
King's Lynn	00.26	5.1	12.44	5.1	Walton-on-N	06.01	3.5	18.25	[illegible]

All times BST. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Holbeach, Lincolnshire, 31C (88F); lowest day max: Fair Isle, Shetland, 16C (61F); highest rainfall: Shrewsbury, Shropshire, 0.98in; highest sunshine: Clacton, Essex, 12.9hr.

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft
TUESDAY AUGUST 12 1997
Sth

Stability wins the day as market fears ebb away

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

A DAY anticipated with fear on world financial markets, after last week's sudden break in price trends, passed off peacefully as investors and traders opted for stability rather than speculation.

In the UK, further evidence confirmed sterling's recent strength has quelled any inflationary pressure on manufacturers. But the British Retail Consortium (BRC) reported the fastest monthly growth in sales since October as some consumers spent windfalls from conversion of building societies and mutual insurers. On the foreign exchanges, the dollar and sterling recovered from their retreat on Friday, but traders made no attempt to fight against the change of direction of the mark and the yen. The Sterling Index rose from 101.3 to 102.1 as the pound regained a cent against the dollar, to $1.59, and two pfennigs against the mark to DM 2.95.

Blue chip shares opened sharply lower after Friday's late fall on Wall Street, but recovered quickly in the absence of speculative selling. Instead, buyers came back for smaller companies and manufacturers. The FTSE 100 index was virtually unchanged on the day, at 5,031.9. The index of the next 250 companies made modest gains. Gilt-edged slipped in quiet trading.

In New York, the dollar retrieved a little of Friday's loss against the and securities ended flat. The long bond and share prices had fallen by noon. Shares also fell on the Continent, but only in Japan was there any marked drop, the Nikkei index down 4 per cent, or 780 points, at 18,828.

The BRC registered like-for-like retail sales 5.2 per cent higher by value in July than a year ago and 4.8 per cent in the past three months. The growth rate has recovered since the spring but is still lower than a year ago. After a wet June, buyers stocked up on summer clothes in the July sales. The BRC suggests that spending of windfalls boosted home decorating and one-off items such as computers. Adding in new stores and extra selling space, the value of July sales was 8.2 per cent up on a year ago.

Strong sterling, which has deprived London stores of tourist business, has again helped manufacturers control costs. Input prices fell a further 0.4 per cent (seasonally adjusted) in July, making an annual cut of 8.9 per cent, up from 8.6 per cent in June. Producers' output prices disappointed most analysts by rising 0.2 per cent in July, raising annual factory gate inflation from 1.1 to 1.4 per cent. The average City forecaster projected an annual rise of 1.2 per cent.

All the rise was, however, attributed to rises in taxes and excise duties, notably the latest Budget levy on petrol. So the sole evidence of inflationary pressure was firms' ability to pass these taxes on. Excluding food, drink, tobacco and petrol, factory gate prices were unchanged in July. That left annual output price inflation at 0.6 per cent.

Retail price inflation is today expected to have risen in July, mainly due to mortgages.

Sighs of relief, page 27

Financier forces big Swiss merger

By Gavin Lumsden

MARTIN EBNER, the maverick Swiss financier with a self-imposed mission to reorganise his country's moribund financial services sector, scored his first victory yesterday as Credit Suisse, the investment bank, and Winterthur Group, the insurer, announced their intention to merge.

The move catapults the bank over its closest rivals SBC and UBS and will create one of the biggest financial services providers in the world with 15 million customers, a market capitalisation of £21 billion and £294 billion under management. It accelerates the trend towards bancassurance, which is blurring the traditional distinctions between financial services providers.

Mr Ebner, who controls a 25 per cent stake in Winterthur through his BZ Trust, last week put pressure on the companies to get together. He threatened that he might mount a full takeover bid for the insurer and then, if Credit Suisse would not buy it, seek another bank as a partner. This compelled Winterthur, which signed a strategic alliance with Credit Suisse last year, to invite the bank to formalise the relationship.

Credit Suisse, however, was keen to play down Mr Ebner's role in bringing the two companies together, saying the potential for further ties had become clear over the course of their co-operation. Lukas Mühlemann, chief executive of the combined group, said: "The merger is a powerful, forward looking response to developments in the financial services market. The Group will open up far-reaching opportunities to leverage multiple distribution channels to better serve our customers, while creating lasting value for shareholders."

Ebner: pressure

Credit Suisse said the merger would generate between £126 million and £147 million (300-350 million Swiss francs) in cost savings. It would also balance a more stable stream of insurance income against its own more erratic earnings from banking. Both factors would offset the initial dilution effect of the merger, it said. Salomon Brothers forecast earnings per share for the combined group of 11.9 per cent this year, rising to 12.1 per cent in 1998.

Credit Suisse revealed its half-year profits early, saying it expected a 70 per cent improvement on last year, to around Swfl.4 billion.

The merger is proposed as a share exchange, offering 7.3 Credit Suisse shares for each Winterthur share. This represents a 7 per cent premium to the average price of the last 30 days and 36 per cent more than the market price three months ago, before Mr Ebner started agitating.

BZ Group described the move as "a reasonable industrial solution done at a fair price". If approved by BZ Group and other shareholders on September 5, Winterthur will become a third sector of the Credit Suisse Group, taking over CS Life, while retaining its brand and operational independence. Some 500 jobs will go without redundancies.

Analysts predicted the move could trigger further consolidation in Swiss financial services. The synergies arising from the merger give Credit Suisse an immediate competitive edge over its closest rivals, UBS and SBC.

Credit Suisse could face problems in the US, where regulations prohibit banks and insurance companies from owning each other.

Rainer Gut, left, president of Credit Suisse, shakes hands with Peter Spaelti, chief executive of Winterthur, in Zurich yesterday as the merger was agreed

Davies seeks key super-SIB staff

By Robert Miller
Banking Correspondent

HOWARD DAVIES, the chairman of the new super City watchdog, has moved swiftly to fill senior posts to oversee the creation of the new regulatory body to protect investors' money.

Mr Davies, the former deputy governor of the Bank of England, has appointed Saxton Bampfylde, the headhunter, to interview candidates for an all-powerful four-strong executive committee, which Mr Davies will chair. Competition for the four key posts is expected to be keen with a number of outsider throwing their hats into the ring.

The new committee will dominate the creation of Newro (the New Regulatory Organisation) which will replace the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the chief City watchdog. The frontline regulators that police fund managers, retailers selling direct to the public and brokers and futures dealers will be part of what has been dubbed the new super-SIB as will those regulating building and friendly societies and insurance companies.

Since taking up his Newro post on August 1, Mr Davies has also decided to bring in new external consultants to replace Westminster Strategy, a long-time SIB adviser.

The first appointment to the Newro committee is likely to be Michael Foot, the Bank of England's head of banking supervision, who will move his 500-strong staff over to the new watchdog next year. Mr Foot will play a key role in the establishment of the new all-embracing regulator. Andrew Winckler, SIB's chief executive and a former Treasury mandarin, is another strong contender to join the Newro executive committee.

It is understood, however, that the chief executive's role will be split with one looking after day-to-day management, including personnel and administration, while another will focus on supervision and surveillance of City firms. Another name being tipped to join the new committee is Richard Kilsby, a respected Stock Exchange director.

In a letter to City watchdogs explaining the role of the new committee, Mr Davies says that he wants to be fair to all the constituent parts of Newro and the nine diverse bodies that it will include. Equally, the former deputy governor has said that those regulatory executives already in place will have "first crack of the whip" in the selection process.

All senior Newro board appointments will have to be approved by the Treasury and, for the time being, the Bank of England.

Commentary, page 25

Island sees light with millennium coup

By Nathan Yates

A REPUBLIC in the South Pacific has outflanked British businessmen in the rush to cash in on the dawn of the new millennium.

Entrepreneurs, including Norris McWhirter, the *Guinness Book of Records* mastermind, have bought rights to the highest points of Pitt Island, off New Zealand, cited by the Royal Observatory as the first land to catch the sun on New Millennium Day. Thousands of tourists are expected to flock there on December 31, 1999.

But the Republic of Kiribati has redrawn the international dateline so that a tiny uninhabited outpost will now catch the first glimpse of new millennium sunlight — Caroline Island will see dawn 22 minutes earlier than Pitt. Yesterday a Kiribati radio report claimed that the Government is to underline this fact by changing Caroline's name to Millennium Island.

The move is a blow to several British businessmen who have rented vantage points on Pitt. The Millennium Adventure Company, run by Mr McWhirter, is among those hoping to strike lucrative leasing deals with tour operators and individual millennium dawn-seekers.

Travel companies, such as STA Travel, have organised millennium tours to Pitt and nearby Gisborne City on the New Zealand mainland. They also stand to lose as Caroline Island's status as the first to see the dawn is publicised.

According to the Royal Observatory, there is little that tour operators or Mr McWhirter can do. "The dateline system is a social convention rather than an international law," said Dr Robin Catchpole. "Kiribati is perfectly free to do this . . ."

Stretching the dateline is likely to produce a surge in tourism revenue for Kiribati. "The South Pacific is the top destination for the millennium celebrations," one travel agent said. "We have already taken bookings, and there's no question that people want to be the first to see the dawn."

However, according to the Royal Observatory, those celebrating millennium eve in the South Pacific will be misguided. "Scientifically speaking, the true turn of the year is at midnight Greenwich Mean Time," Dr Catchpole said. "And the earliest year 2000 dawn is September 22, 1999 at the South Pole."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	5031.9	(-10.69)
Yield	3.29%	
FTSE All share	2357.52	(+2.69)
Nikkei	18824.18	(-780.28)
New York:		
Dow Jones	8020.53	(-10.69)*
S&P Composite	931.87	(-1.67)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 9/16%*	[illegible]
Long Bond	96 13/32*	[illegible]
Yield	6.66%*	(6.61%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	[illegible]	[illegible]
Liffe long gilt future (Sep)	[illegible]	[illegible]

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5900*	(1.5850)
London:		
$	1.5907	(1.5784)
DM	2.9497	(2.9249)
FFr	9.9367	(9.8580)
SFr	2.4215	(2.3848)
Yen	184.12	(182.90)
£ Index	102.1	(101.3)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.8565*	(1.8455)
FFr	6.2525*	(6.2185)
SFr	1.5233*	(1.5097)
Yen	115.83*	(114.80)
$ Index	105.9	(105.9)

Tokyo close Yen 115.27

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Oct)	$18.60	($18.85)

GOLD

London close	$327.55	($324.85)

* denotes midday trading price

British Telecom under pressure

British Telecom was under pressure yesterday to renegotiate or abandon, its £14 billion takeover of MCI of America as the shares went ex-dividend and closed sharply lower. Reports have been circulating that GTE, America's largest local phone operator, would like to replace BT as MCI's partner.

Stock market, page 26

Departure date sought for Pitcher

By Christine Buckley
Industrial Correspondent

UNITED UTILITIES will today be pressed to name a departure date for its beleaguered executive chairman, Sir Desmond Pitcher.

At an emergency board meeting directors will hear details of the unrest from institutional investors gathered at meetings with shareholders which, it emerged yesterday, have been conducted by more than one non-executive director.

The board is expected to hear complaints from shareholders collected from meetings with Sir Peter Middleton, the BZW chairman and senior United non-executive director.

One source close to the company said: "A number of shareholders are leaning on the board for an immediate decision on the date." It is thought that a departure by the next annual meeting — July 1998 — would be acceptable.

Meanwhile the executive chairman, who had wanted to retire in the year 2000, has cancelled holiday plans.

Fat cat prepares, page 27

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Eurodollar board backs £95m American bid

By Adam Jones

THE board of EuroDollar, the car-rental agency that shocked investors with a profits slump after flotation in 1994, has recommended a £95.1 million bid by Republic Industries, the US group chaired by Wayne Huizenga, the garbage-to-videos billionaire.

Yesterday, Republic said it had bought 29.9 per cent of EuroDollar in the open market. It has undertakings from directors relating to another 13 per cent and is unlikely to fail in the bid. The offer of 190p per share cash, with a loan note alternative, represents a premium of 60 per cent to EuroDollar's closing price last Friday. One big shareholder likely to accept said yesterday: "We're not disgusted by the offer."

EuroDollar was listed in 1994 at an offer price of 220p. Pre-tax profits fell from £14.6 million to £4 million after flotation following a collapse in the resale value of its fleet.

Institutions who picked the shares up cheaply include Gartmore, NatWest's fund management arm, and Schroders. Mercury Asset Management is another big shareholder.

The Huizenga family made their money through rubbish collection, starting the Ace Scavenger Service in 1894. The company became Waste Management, which attracted controversy in the 1980s for misdemeanours including pollution violations and price-fixing.

Mr Huizenga is a former chairman of Blockbuster Video and is regarded as having turned round Republic's previously see-sawing performance. He is a keen sports fan, owning the the Amercian football team, the Miami Dolphins.

Republic's interests include Alamo Rent-A-Car and National Car Rental, as well as financial and security services. Geoff Corbett, of Republic, said the management of EuroDollar would be retained. He said EuroDollar had tamed the volatility that led to the profits slump through guaranteed repurchase programmes. EuroDollar has about 15 per cent of the UK rental market, he said, adding that Republic wanted to increase the number of foreigners renting through the company. He said 95 per cent of EuroDollar's customers are from the UK. Alamo already has some offices in the UK, but Mr Corbett said there would be no problem of one business growing at the expense of the other. EuroDollar's weaker US franchise, Dollar, may be rebranded.

Ian Moseley, chief executive, will receive nearly £4 million for his holdings. Other directors have holdings ranging from 1.4 million shares to 1.6 million. The shares closed at 188p, up 69½p.

Asians and IMF put £10bn into Thailand

By George Sivell

THE world's second largest economic rescue took shape yesterday as the International Monetary Fund and several nations led by Japan offered Thailand $16 billion (£10 billion) in loans to shore up the troubled baht currency.

It is the largest package offered to a single country since the IMF and other donors led by America made nearly $40 billion available to Mexico during the 1995 currency crisis.

The loans would give Thailand the foreign exchange reserves it needs to fill in the black holes left by the collapse of the baht last month. The offer came as Thailand began strict economic reforms, including cutting government spending, raising taxes and closing dozens of troubled finance companies.

Japan and the IMF will each provide $4 billion in loans. Australia, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Singapore will provide $1 billion each, while South Korea and Indonesia will lend $500 million each. The other $3 billion will come from the World Bank, the Asia Development Bank and maybe China. Germany, Britain, France and Canada also sent officials to the IMF meeting in Tokyo yesterday but did not offer contributions.

Thailand gave no official reaction and share prices on its stock market slid 0.72 per cent in subdued trading.

For years, Thailand had boasted one of the world's fastest growing economies. But in early July the baht fell sharply, exacerbating problems in the financial industry caused by falling property prices and bad loans.

Free market economic policies in the late 1980s produced average annual growth rates of more than 9 per cent, but these policies also triggered a speculative property boom in which investors built more buildings than they could fill and lenders poured money into projects doomed to fail. The Bank of Thailand has already injected $14.5 billion into the country's troubled finance sector.

When the Government floated the baht currency, it promptly lost 20 per cent against the dollar. The flotation was intended to make Thai exports more competitive. Soon afterward, the currencies of Malaysia and the Philippines fell, causing some investors to lower their expectations of economic growth in South-East Asia.

Yesterday the Malaysian ringgit continued to fall against the US dollar, hitting a 42-month low. The ringgit sank to a low of 2.7430 per dollar, its weakest since February 1994. The currency has remained under pressure since plunging 2 per cent on Friday shortly after Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister, said he was happy with the ringgit's level.

Leading article, page 17

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.26	2.09
Austria Sch	21.74	20.08
Belgium Fr	64.05	59.09
Canada $	2.343	2.155
Cyprus Cyp£	0.909	0.838
Denmark Kr	11.82	10.93
Finland Mkk	9.35	8.60
France Fr	10.40	9.62
Germany Dm	3.11	2.87
Greece Dr	488	449
Hong Kong $	13.12	11.92
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.16	1.07
Israel Shk	5.94	5.29
Italy Lira	3051	2814
Japan Yen	199.23	181.70
Malta	0.673	0.614
Netherlds Gld	3.512	3.217
New Zealand $	2.64	2.40
Norway Kr	12.74	11.80
Portugal Esc	310.53	288.50
S Africa Rd	8.15	7.19
Spain Pta	259.79	241.00
Sweden Kr	13.48	12.38
Switzerland Fr	2.57	2.35
Turkey Lira	269668	249790
USA $	1.698	1.555

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Friendly Tigers seek conversion

Peter Wheeler is ready to tackle a change of stripes for the Leicester Tigers

By Jason Nisse

THE prospect of the first rugby union side to float on the stock market moved closer yesterday when Leicester FC, one of the leading teams in the Courage League, announced plans to convert to a plc.

Leicester — nicknamed the Tigers — is a friendly society, owned by 9,000 members who pay £200 a year each to watch the team. But Peter Wheeler, the former England player who is now the club's chief executive, wants to raise £3 million to develop the Welford Road ground. He believes a further £4 million is needed to build up commercial activities.

He has appointed HSBC Merchant Bank and KPMG, the accountant, to advise on fundraising options. The first step is to ask members to agree to convert to a plc, a move requiring a 75 per cent majority.

"Conversion to plc status will put us in a position to exploit new sources of finance and further enhance the status of Leicester Tigers," said Mr Wheeler. The club will not rule out a stock market float, but its finances suggest other methods may be better. It has a wage bill of more than £1.5 million but latest accounts show income of only £1 million.

Although no rugby union clubs are quoted independently, Wasps is owned by Loftus Road, an AIM company, London Scottish and London Irish raised money through private placings, and Saracens, Gloucester and Newcastle have wealthy benefactors. Sheffield Eagles recently became the first rugby league club to float on the AIM.

Altatron creates 300 jobs with new plant

By A Correspondent

A HIGH-TECH American firm is to bring 300 jobs to Scotland. Altatron, based in California, is to set up an £8 million plant in Lanarkshire, where the jobs will be created over three years.

The company will occupy part of the Hamilton International Technology Park, which is expected to be operational by October. The news was welcomed by Malcolm Chisholm, the Scottish Office Minister, who said it "adds to Scotland's reputation as a world centre for electronics manufacture and research".

The project was won by Locate in Scotland, the joint Scottish Office and Scottish Enterprise inward investment agency, working in partnership with Lanarkshire Development Agency and Akeler (Scotland), the developers.

Ray Warrington, Altatron corporate development vice-president, said: "We chose Scotland because of its proximity to suppliers and customers and its logistics infrastructure."

☐ A further 100 jobs are expected to be created by Stannifer Developments in Aberdeen, with plans for a retail warehouse with fast-food restaurant.

Low & Bonar pays £11m for Nuway

By Chris Ayres

SHARES in Low & Bonar, the Dundee packaging and plastics group, continued their slow recovery yesterday, rising 7½p to 248½p after the company reported the £11 million acquisition of Nuway Manufacturing from BTR, the engineering conglomerate.

Low & Bonar's shares, which had reached a high of 574p last year, crashed to a low of 205p last month after the company gave up its contract to supply Kelloggs with breakfast food packets because of high capital costs.

The company said the purchase of Telford-based Nuway, which also has operations in the US and France, would further its position in the floor coverings sector.

Nuway specialises in the design and manufacture of high-performance flooring. Last year, it made operating profits of £1.3 million on sales of about £8 million. Its net assets were worth about £2 million. The cost of integrating Nuway is estimated to be £1 million.

Jim Heilig, L&B chief executive, said the deal "underlines our commitment to repositioning the group with an increased emphasis on our speciality business".

Dublin move for US airline

UNITED Airlines is to move most of its European reservation activity to Dublin. The company will phase out its London, Frankfurt, Paris, Zurich and Amsterdam reservation units over the next year.

United has offered the 170 employees affected by the change the opportunity to relocate to Dublin. It will be open seven days a week and is expected to employ 200 people by 2000. The reservations centre is being grant-assisted by the Industrial Development Agency.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Pan Andean in talks over Bolivian oil

PAN ANDEAN, the Dublin oil explorer whose shares have endured a white-knuckle ride over the past 12 months, down from 135½p to 26½p, yesterday announced that it is in talks with four international oil companies over a joint drilling venture in Bolivia. The company, which saw £35 million wiped off its market value last year when a drilling programme in Bolivia failed to find oil, still believes that hydrocarbons exist in its Chapare exploration block.

Yesterday's statement came in the wake of Pan Andean's row with BHP, the Australian resources group, which resulted in their Bolivan joint venture being abandoned this year. The dispute began when BHP refused to start drilling this year. Pan Andean also reported full-year pre-tax losses of £110,000, compared to £143,000 in the previous year.

Marley expands in US

MARLEY, the building materials group, is buying Flexco, the Alabama flooring business of Robbins Inc, for £24.8 million ($39.2 million). Marley said that the company, which made an operating profit of $5.4 million last year on sales of $35.7 million, would strengthen its business in North America and provide it with a complementary product range. The assets being bought had a book value of $12.5 million at the end of last year.

Cortworth up to £5.4m

CORTWORTH, the specialist engineering company that agreed to a £97 million takeover bid by the Kuwaiti-owned BI Group last month, reported an increase in pre-tax profits from £5 million to £5.4 million. Earnings per share went up from 7.1p to 7.9p in the six months to June 30. The shares stand at 192½p, 3½p below BI's offer. The company said: "Due to the terms of the BI Group offer, the results have been produced on the basis that no interim dividend will be paid."

Diagonal advances

DIAGONAL, the IT services group that floated on the stock exchange in March, yesterday reported an 82 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, from £780,000 to £1.42 million, for the six months to June. Turnover was up 41 per cent, from £12.6 million to £17.8 million, and earnings per share rose from 2.7p to 3.8p. An interim dividend of 0.8p is due October 3. Mark Samuels, Diagonal's executive chairman, said that the company was expanding to meet demand.

Clyde Blowers' revision

SHARES in Clyde Blowers dropped 30p to 330p yesterday after the engineering group revised its sales forecast for the next year, reducing it by £2 million because of the strength of the pound. Sales in the year to August 1996 reached £45 million. Clyde said the strength of sterling had strongly affected its Richard Simon and Sturtevant/Vac-U-Max businesses, part of the materials handling division. In the last quarter Clyde said it had dropped £3 million of turnover.

Rexam switches payout

REXAM, the paper and packaging group, believes it will save around £3 million in recovered advance corporation tax by paying its first interim dividend of 1.9375p as a foreign income dividend. Rexam also said that it will pay the half-yearly fixed dividend on the convertible preference shares as a foreign income dividend. The company said it intends to pay a second interim dividend on November 5 to the holders of ordinary shares.

Style to cut dash on AIM

STYLE HOLDINGS, the retailer of branded menswear, is joining the Alternative Investment Market and expects dealings to begin on August 26. Shore Capital Stockbrokers is the nominated adviser and broker. It recently completed a £4.4 million private placing for Style, raising almost £3 million. Style plans to expand its 12-store Envy retail chain, begun in 1992, and has identified another 20 sites. Style's has 124 shop-in-shops in 118 host outlets, mostly Burton Top Man stores.

Optometrics improves

OPTOMETRICS, the engineering group, reported a full-year net loss of $259,936 (£153,000) in the year to March 31, an improvement from the previous $767,972 loss. Losses per share fell from 7.41c to 2.50c. Frank Denton, chairman, said the company moved into profit in the first quarter this year and current trends in order bookings, along with new products launches, should give a strong second half. He said that the full-year loss was mainly due to the phase-out of Euro Biosystems.

Emap in Australian deal

EMAP, the publisher, is to buy Mason Stewart Publishing and Bounty Services, both of Australia, for about £5 million subject to Australian regulatory approval. Both companies have long been licensees of Emap titles such as *Smash Hits*, *Slimming* and *Mother and Baby*. Philip Mason, founder of Mason Stewart, will be chairman of the new company; Arthur Bateman, Bounty's founder, will be an adviser to Bounty.

Ascot's French sale

ASCOT HOLDINGS, the diversified industrial group, yesterday sold its Clearplas France subsidiary, acquired last August, for Fr85 million (£8.56 million) to Key Plastics of the US. Net assets amounted to Fr38 million and the pre-tax profit reached Fr8.5 million. Ascot will receive Fr66 million in cash and Fr19 million by repayment of group debt. Ascot said that "further divestments are planned".

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Meltdown is put on ice

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Dangerous tensions have been building up in world financial markets for several weeks. As logic gave way to trend, the odds have grown that it could end in tears.

Speculators buying dollars to chase the rising interest rates they expected the Federal Reserve Board to impose gave way to other speculators as inflation failed to accelerate. The new buyers of dollars were chasing falling bond interest rates as Alan Greenspan, the Fed's chairman, became a born-again believer in America's productivity miracle and stopped talking down the rampant share price boom on Wall Street.

Currency speculators selling marks against the prospect of a widely-drawn soft euro gave way to speculators selling the mark against the weak German economy. They were daring the Bundesbank to act with unemployment rising.

In the UK, prices of blue chips were rising sharply when interest rates were rising, when sterling's strength was hitting profits and when City forecasts of company earnings growth were falling month by month. Not surprisingly, the main buyers were continental fund managers chasing sterling as much as UK equities. So a big gulf has grown between the top bank, insurance and drug shares that are internationally traded and the rest whose shares have stagnated.

The trouble with such currency/asset price spirals is that they are mutually supporting. Once they go too far or are flung into reverse by official action or miscalculation, who knows what will happen? The sudden reversal of currency trends on Thursday and Friday caused flutters in the stoutest investors' hearts. If there was going to be a crash, this could be the trigger.

Aside from Tokyo following Friday's flutter on Wall Street, yesterday was remarkably quiet on the markets. If overshoots on the foreign exchange markets can be unravelled without bouncing into a new and opposite trend, millions of investors will be able to sleep more soundly through sweaty August nights and fund managers will not have to fly back from the Riviera. Like the reformed alcoholic, the markets will have to take it one day at a time.

In the UK, at least, the Bank of England announcement that hit sterling offers hopes for asset prices. If the Bank abjures any further rise in base rates for at least three months, and if short-term rates are pretty near their near-term peak, as Liffe projections suggest, then the stock market's second-worst fear is dispelled. A gentle relapse of sterling would limit its third worry. That leaves blue chips and gilt-edged vulnerable to a crash but underwrites neglected second-rank stocks.

Davies sends out a search party

It is good to see that Howard Davies has lost no time in starting the search for his key directors to establish the new City regulator. The obvious names are already in the frame and include Andrew Winckler, the chief executive of the SIB, and Michael Foot from the Bank of England. Mr Davies has indicated that those who are already in the world of regulation will be considered first and in the case of the aforementioned names that is as it should be.

In studying the short-list of candidates for the other two posts on his executive committee, however, Mr Davies would be doing himself, and the cause of regulation, a great deal of good by spreading the recruitment net as widely as possible.

For example, the new City watchdog will have to redraw its relationship with a whole raft of key London markets, including the metal, petroleum and other commodity exchanges as well as the Stock Exchange itself. In future there must be no question but that Newro, or whatever more punchy name it might assume, is the undisputed ruler of its turf.

To do that, and to ensure that London maintains its position as one of the world's top three trading centres, requires an executive committee member who is respected by the markets but knows their weak points. Richard Kilsby is one person who could fill the role more than adequately.

Equally Mr Davies should not be afraid to draw on the existing watchdogs and ask them to move speedily across to Newro.

In that case senior figures such as Richard Farrant, Nick Durlacher, Colette Bowe and even Phillip Thorpe, the enfant terrible of regulation, must have a great deal to offer.

What Mr Davies certainly does not need on his trail-blazing executive committee is a bunch of academics with no practical experience of what it really means to be a City watchdog on the front-line.

But if he is to build the team he needs to fill the smart new headquarters he has still to find, he will have to address the vexatious question of City salaries. If the pay is not up to scratch, the right people will not be tempted to join the new team.

Scope for more summer visions

Martin Ebner appears to have employed threats as well as promises in persuading two leading Swiss institutions that they would like to join forces for their mutual benefit, and his.

In the past, Credit Suisse had indicated that a full scale merger with Winterthur lacked particular attraction. More recently, the two have been talking but Mr Ebner may have feared that they might still have failed to appreciate each other's finer features. So last week he leapt into print with something he romantically entitled "Summer Visions".

In this newsletter for shareholders in his investment businesses, Mr Ebner mused on three possible scenarios for Winterthur, in which he happens to have around a quarter of the shares. Credit Suisse might choose to bid for Winterthur; he might opt to buy the entire business; or Winterthur might find another powerful insurance group to be its partner.

The two companies may have dismissed such thoughts as the ramblings of a megalomaniac money man. Alternatively, the pair may have viewed two out of three of the options as deeply undesirable and decided to make haste to cement the third.

If only other leading investors could be persuaded to put their thoughts on paper in this manner. Shareholders would surely appreciate a regular update on the thoughts of MAM, for instance.

Over-dressed

FROM Wales comes word that certain textile workers are in danger of breaking bones tripping over piles of garments which look suspiciously like spring and summer stock and are therefore destined never to be welcome in the stores. The labels in the frocks bear the legend Laura Ashley. And the numbers of sad summery garments indicate that next week's trading statement could be extremely gloomy.

Ladbroke given licence for new London casino

By Dominic Walsh

LADBROKE Group, hotly tipped as a bidder for the troubled casino operator Capital Corporation, has been granted a licence to open a £2 million casino at London's St Giles Hotel, the capital's first new licence for nine years.

There were suggestions that the move diminished the chances of a bid for Capital, which operates Crockfords and the Colony Club. Ladbroke emerged as a likely suitor after last week's decision by the President of the Board of Trade to block a £190 million bid for Capital from London Clubs International.

But most analysts were adamant a move on Capital was unaffected. One said: "The new licence is aimed at the lower end of the market, whereas Crockfords and the Colony Club are aimed at high-rollers. I would say it leaves open the possibility of an approach for Capital."

Another said: "This is a coup for Ladbroke, which has effectively gained a new casino licence for nothing. But Capital's two licences are in a different league and my money is still on Capital being taken out by Ladbroke." Shareholders in Capital, still suffering the consequences of lax controls by past management, are pinning their hopes on a bid from Ladbroke or a US gaming company.

The awarding of the new licence to Ladbroke — the company's fifth in the capital — surprised industry watchers, who have become hardened to the strict regulatory regime imposed by the Gaming Board. But in spite of objections from rival operator Stakis, the Gaming Board agreed with the findings of the West Central Gaming Committee that there was unsatisfied demand in the area.

The Malaysian owners of the St Giles, at the junction of Great Russell Street and Tottenham Court Road, have granted Ladbroke a 25-year lease on the 10,000 sq ft premises. Ladbroke is spending almost £2 million to create a casino with 14 tables, six jackpot machines and a restaurant and bar. It will open next summer as the Ladbroke Sporting Club and analysts predict it could make a profit of at least £2 million a year.

Elsewhere, Ladbroke continues to seek buyers for eight hotels worth more than £90 million that do not fit with the core Hilton brand. A Far Eastern investor is thought to be ready to pay more than £40 million for the 402-bedroom Plaza on Hyde Park in London, while Jarvis Hotels is reported to be looking at up to three of the provincial properties.

Ladbroke's shares edged 2p higher, to 248½p, while Capital fell 4p to 161½p.

New routes help to lift Ryanair

HIGHER than expected passenger numbers on its new European routes helped to boost after-tax profits at Ryanair, the Irish airline, to Ir£4.3 million (£3.9 million) for the quarter to June 30, compared with Ir£2.8 million previously (Eileen McCabe writes). Earnings per share grew 44 per cent from Ir2.2p to 3.2p.

Ryanair, which this year floated on the Dublin and Nasdaq stock exchanges, says the average load factors on its new routes exceed 75 per cent. The flotation helped it to pay off almost all of its aircraft debt and boost cash reserves.

Ryanair intends to increase the size of its fleet and open up new routes by the end of the year.

US disk firm appeals over £86m Amstrad damages

By Jason Nissé and Chris Ayres

FORMER INVESTORS in Amstrad had a setback yesterday when Seagate Technologies, the US disk drive maker, lodged an appeal against the £86 million damages award made in Amstrad's favour in their long-running legal battle.

Under the deal to break up Amstrad, which came into effect ten days ago, former shareholders in the group founded by Alan Sugar received litigation certificates that entitled them to a share of the proceeds of the legal actions against Seagate in the UK, and Western Digital, another disk maker, in the US.

The litigation certificates have been trading at under 10p each — compared with a value of 50p if the £86 million damages awards is upheld. Mr Sugar has offered to buy certificates if any former shareholders want to sell.

Sugar: offer for certificates

Seagate described the ruling awarding damages for making faulty disks for Amstrad personal computers as a "home court decision". Amstrad has also appealed against the way interest and tax have been calculated on the damages, damanding up to £20 million more.

Herbert Smith, Amstrad's lawyers, said that the judge used too low a rate of interest and used the corporation tax regime at the time the claim was lodged rather than when the award was made.

Meanwhile, Martin Bland, former Amstrad finance manager, yesterday joined Betacom, which was part-owned by Amstrad and took on a large portion of its old business. He replaces Julian Seidman, who only joined Betacom nine months ago. Mr Sugar became executive chairman after the Amstrad break-up.

Sterling mars mood at Premier Farnell

By Paul Durman

PREMIER Farnell, the electronics distributor whose shares have taken a nosedive this year, said that the strong pound will cut £5 million from its first-half profits.

Its trading report, which otherwise was positive, was the first of a series that Premier Farnell intends to issue to rebuild its reputation after a badly handled profit warning in January. The company's shares have only recently started to recover, having crashed from 750p at the turn of the year, to 450p. They closed 4p higher at 536½p.

The group is making the slowest progress in the North American arm of its catalogue distribution division, which is based around the Newark Electronics business acquired last year through a controversial £1.8 billion merger. In the 26 weeks to August 3, dollar sales were 3.5 per cent ahead of last year, and were gradually improving in the second quarter.

Catalogue distribution sales in Europe and the rest of the world were 6 per cent ahead at constant exchange rates. Investments in its industrial catalogue, and in introducing Newark's catalogues to Europe, are not expected to break even this year. It said the UK market for electronic components remained slow, with the strength of sterling damaging custom from exporters.

ALAN WELLER

Stephen Day, the chief executive of Kode International which raised pre-tax profit to £731,000 (£206,000) in the six months to June 27. The dividend was maintained.

Pledge by Dalgety to deter predators

By Sarah Cunningham

DALGETY, the Felix and Winalot pet foods company, vowed yesterday to do its utmost to remain independent, but acknowledged that it could be a takeover target.

Ken Hanna, finance director, said that the group and Lazards, its banker, are fully prepared for a hostile bid. "After two profit warnings, we have had to sharpen our defences," he said.

He denied that there had been any discussions with ING Barings, or any other merchant bank or company about taking over the group.

Speculation has centred on Barings preparing a break-up bid and lining up various possible buyers for parts of the business, including Nestlé, Associated British Foods and Ralston Purina of the United States.

Analysts believe that the company, whose shares closed 16p higher yesterday at 266½p, after falling from more than 350p this year, is vulnerable to a break-up bid at between 300p and 350p.

Mr Hanna said that the results of a strategic review will be presented to investors, along with the company's preliminary results, on September 15.

"We recognise that we have got to deliver," he said. "We *believe that the current management can improve shareholder value.*"

Tempus, page 26

Waste disposal firm caught off guard by 'unsolicited' offer

Leigh to resist £100m Utilities bid

By Oliver August

LEIGH INTERESTS, the waste disposal company, is set to resist an "unsolicited" £100 million bid from General Utilities, the British arm of Compagnie Générale des Eaux. But investors welcomed the prospect of a takeover, sending the shares up from 119p to 146½p.

Leigh said in a statement: "No proposal has yet been put forward by General Utilities and it is not clear to Leigh whether any proposal will be forthcoming." Insiders said that the company had been caught off guard, with many directors on holiday. A spokesman said that a further announcement will be made by the end of this week. The company, based in Stafford, returned to profit in the last financial year and is currently undergoing a restructuring that is expected to reduce debts through the sale of assets.

General Utilities yesterday confirmed its interest in Leigh. The French-owned utility company said talks were at an early stage and "may or may not lead to an offer or other form of corporate transaction".

Leigh was first approached by General Utilities on Sunday afternoon after speculation in the press. It has been suggested that General Utilities was forced to make the approach earlier than it had intended. It said: "In the context of the international development of Compagnie Générale des Eaux, General Utilities routinely considers a number of options for the development of the group's core businesses in the UK."

This year, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission blocked a bid by General Utilities for Mid-Kent Water. The French group has retained a minority stake in Mid-Kent along with minority holdings in Bristol Water and South Staffordshire Water. It also controls four other water service companies.

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Notice is hereby given that Assicurazioni Generali S.p.A. has established an Information Center to provide information on policies issued by Generali Branches in Central and East European countries to, or in favour of persons who perished in the Holocaust, to the extent that such information is available to Generali in its archive in Trieste.

It should be noted that the information available to Generali relates to policies issued by Generali Branches in the respective countries sixty, seventy years ago and more. Generali holds, in its Head Office in Trieste, the first pages only of those policies, which were sent to it by the branches upon the issue of the policies. Generali does not have any information as to the status of the insurance coverages under those policies during the period following the issue thereof since all policies and all records relating thereto were kept in the branches, of which Generali was ousted immediately after World War II.

The information in Generali's archive is unindexed and Generali is not in a position to determine that the first pages which it does have in Trieste exhaustively reflect all policies issued by its branches in Central and East European countries before World War II.

To facilitate a search for names and information available in Trieste, Generali is in the process of computerizing the data available to it in Trieste.

Information request forms are ready for distribution. Requests for such forms should be addressed to the Generali Policy Information Center, at one of the following addresses :

Generali Policy Information Center
Segreteria Centrale
Piazza Duca degli Abruzzi 2
Trieste 34132, Italy
Fax No. 0039-40-671006

or

Generali Policy Information Center
United Kingdom Branch
117 Fenchurch Street
London EC3M 5DY, United Kingdom
Fax No. 0044 -171-4806575

The computerization of data in Generali's archive in Trieste may take several months, and Generali will respond to inquiries as soon as possible.

Please note that since the expropriation of its properties and branches in East and Central Europe after World War II, Generali is not obligated under the policies issued in those countries. The policies and the assets related to them were all subject to local laws. The policies and the reserves underlying them became the responsibility of the states or state-owned entities that took them over.

Generali is setting up a fund in the amount of US$ 12,000,000, to be applied over a period of twelve years, inter alia, for ex gratia payments to beneficiaries under such policies, and their legal successors, in accordance with priorities and criteria to be determined by a Committee headed by a retired Justice of the Supreme Court of Israel to be appointed by the Chairmen of the Finance Committee, the Insurance Sub-Committee, the Committee for the restitution of Jewish Property, of the Knesset and Migdal Insurance Company Ltd. The procedures for applications to the Committee will be published by the Committee, once it begins functioning.

The setting up of the Information Center and the establishment of the Fund should not be taken as a recognition by Generali of an obligation to pay any amounts under policies issued by its branches in Central and Eastern Europe before World War II.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Weight of money saves shares from the bears

CITY traders braced themselves yesterday for a bloodbath in the wake of Friday's 127-point plunge by the Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street. But it never materialised and a near 85-point turnaround pulled share prices back on to an even keel.

There was a savage markdown first thing that saw the FTSE 100 index tumble 64.9 points. The absence of selling pressure, however, let bargain hunters make their move. By mid-afternoon the early deficit was transformed into a 19.8 rise. By the close the index was 0.6 up at 5,031.9 — a creditable performance given that the list of companies going ex-dividend was equivalent to a 15-point fall.

Sheffield United up 4½p, Sunderland down 2½p

Dealers say the sheer weight of money building up outside the market and stock shortages continue to underpin equities. But with the inflation numbers due out this morning, investors were not getting too carried away.

Blue chips were mixed, with **Commercial Union** up 10½p at 746p after a recommendation from Goldman Sachs, the US securities house, while recent high-flyer **Zeneca** dropped 26½p to £19.64.

BT was a weak market in early trading, touching 368½p after going ex the combined ordinary and special dividend totalling 47p. Friday's closing price of 426½p was later rebased to 391½p to take account of the special payment. It meant that on some trading screens the fall on the day was 4p at 387½p, while on others it was of 39p.

Guinness fell 8½p to 582½ and **Grand Metropolitan** shed 8p at 587½p as HSBC James Capel, the broker, came out against their proposed £24 billion merger.

The banks contained some notable fallers, with **Standard Chartered** touching £10.38½ before rallying to reduce the deficit to £10.51. **Nikko**, the Japanese securities house, is urging for the shares to be sold once they reach the £10.06 level.

NatWest Group remained friendless, falling 13p to 830p after going ex the 10.6p dividend as more than two million shares changed hands.

Abbey National also fell 16½p to 829½p after going ex-10.2p of dividend. Its acquisition of Cater Allen, the discount house, has been given the green light. **Lloyds TSB** was another bank going ex dividend following a payment of 5.3p. The shares rose 9½p to 763p. **HSBC** was also a strong market, posting a gain of 45½p at £23.31½.

Psion began shrugging off the ill-effects of last June's profits warning to post a gain of 22½p at 306½p. It followed a report in *The Times* revealing that the group was having production difficulties because it could not keep up with demand for its new Series 5 of handheld computers.

Saturday saw the start of the new football season. Yesterday saw the post mortems now likely to be a regular feature of the results summing-up. **Manchester United** was unchanged at 651½p after making a positive start to retaining its championship title with a comfortable away win against **Tottenham Hotspur**, steady at 99½p. **Newcastle United** celebrated a home win against **Sheffield Wednesday** with a 2½p rise to 130p. **Southampton Leisure** was 3p down at 83½p after its side lost at home to **Bolton Wanderers**, controlled by **Burnden Leisure**, 5½p better at 40½p.

Meanwhile, **Sunderland**, relegated last year from the Premier League, slipped 2½p to 335p after losing away to **Sheffield United**, up 4p at 53½p.

Rank Group was 1p firmer at 348½p as BZW and NatWest bought back a further 500,000 shares at 344p, taking the total bought during the past couple of days to almost 42 million. The group has permission to buy back up to 83 million shares.

Pilkington continued to draw strength from Friday's upgrading by Goldman Sachs from "market outperformer" to "buy". The price firmed 1½p to 152p.

Glynwed International fell 6p to 252p ahead of half-year figures later today. NatWest Securities is looking for a modest increase in pre-tax profits from £39.5 million to £40.7 million.

News of a bid approach lifted **Horace Small Apparel** 13½p to 101½p. The group has also announced a restructuring programme that will result in an £8 million write-off. If the talks are successful the bid is likely to be around the 110p level, valuing Small at £37.7 million.

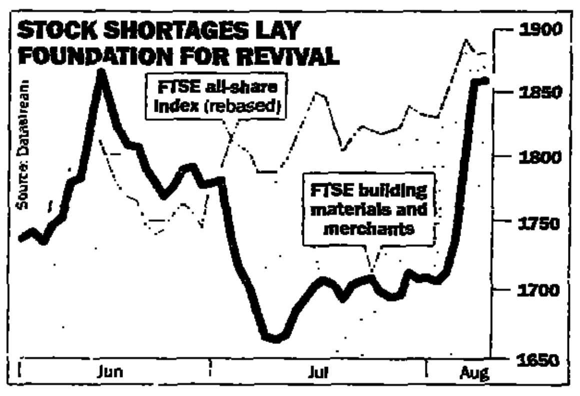
Fairfield Enterprise, maker of printing machinery, enjoyed a modest premium in first-time trading and ended the day at 117½p, a premium of 2½p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: There was little enthusiam shown by investors to open fresh positions in the face of a stronger pound and weaker overseas bond markets. Many of them will wait to see the latest inflation numbers due out later today before committing themselves.

In futures, the September series of the long gilt finished a tick off at £114¼ as the total number of contracts completed reached 36,000.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was unchanged at £109 5/16, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £5/32 lower at £102 21/32.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Shares on Wall Street drifted in cautious trading, still on edge after the sell-off on Friday. The Dow Jones industrial average at midday was down 10.69 points at 8,020.53.



Source: Datastream

Selective support enabled the building suppliers to extend their recent rally although price movements continue to be exaggerated by stock shortages. RMC Group jumped 20p to £11.25, Redland 7p to 313½p, Travis Perkins 15p to 496½p, Wolseley 7p to 495½p, Rugby Group 4½p to 125p, Hanson 4p to 331p, and Marley 3p to 120p.

Broker Mike Ruby at Credit Lyonnais Laing says that stock shortages have helped underpin the sector's performance. He said: "The rally is almost by default. It was so badly sold off, it was looking ridiculously cheap. There is not a lot of stock around and that is helping to fuel many of the gains".

Publication last week of the new construction order book showed signs that demand has started to pick up and conditions generally are gradually improving.

Mr Ruby added: "I was flabbergasted the way the sector was sold off towards the end of June. There was no justification for it. But sentiment has now started to improve and that should provide the impetus for further gains."

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	8020.53 (-10.69)
S&P Composite	931.87 (-1.67)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	18824.18 (-780.28)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	16460.47 (-187.07)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	973.07 (-23.09)

Sydney:

AO	2667.2 (-44.2)

Frankfurt:

DAX	4333.13 (-21.02)

Singapore:

Straits	1893.86 (-50.06)

Brussels:

General	n/a

Paris:

CAC-40	2983.44 (-12.83)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	1231.30 (+1.60)

London:

FT 30	3205.9 (-10.4)
FTSE 100	5031.9 (+0.6)
FTSE 250	4671.6 (+21.1)
FTSE 350	2418.1 (+2.3)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2753.17 (-20.66)
FTSE All-Share	2357.52 (+2.69)
FTSE Non Financials	2351.42 (-1.08)
FTSE Fixed Interest	125.22 (-0.08)
FTSE Govt Secs	96.49 (-0.01)
Bargains	54357
SEAQ Volume	676.0m
US$	1.5904 (+0.0117)
German Mark	2.9489 (+0.024)
Exchange Index	102.1 (+0.8)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4953
£:SDR	1.1661
RPI	157.5 Jun (2.9%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	156.7 Jun (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Billiton	237½	+ 3
Blakes Clothing	71½	− 1
Bristol & West Prf	107¼	+ ¼
Cammell Laird	124½	+ 5
Delcam	269	+ 1½
EMI B	115	...
Fairfield Ents	117½	...
Fairplace Consulting	3¾	...
GR Holdings	65	...
Galen Holdings	194½	...
Gremlin Group	131½	...
Helicon Pubsig	102½	...
Ionica Group	384	+ 1
Kingfisher Leisure	175½	...
Metroline	207½	− 5
Reabourne Merlin	108½	...
SBS Group	107½	+ 1
Severn Trent B	37½	...
Ted Baker	137½	− 1
Thorn B	20½	...
Viglen Technology	67	+ 5½

RIGHTS ISSUES

Active Imaging n/p	1	...
Fortune Oil n/p (11)	3	...
Golden Land n/p (21)	2½	...
Logica n/p (605)	208½	+ 6

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Gaskell	257p (+27p)
MAID	205½p (+17p)
Blagden	150p (+10p)
Dalgety	266½p (+16p)
David Brown	208½p (+12p)
Diagonal	347p (+19p)
Caird Gp	682½p (+25p)
Boot (Henry)	330p (+10p)
Henlys	453½p (+12p)
Avon Rubber	600p (+15p)

FALLS:

Clyde Blowers	330p (-30p)
Xenova	244p (-11p)
Jardine Math	493½p (-9p)
Reckitt Colm	973½p (-17p)
Swire Pacific	575¾p (-10½p)
All Nippon Air	376¾p (-8p)
Fuji Bank Y	829¼p (-23¼p)
JJB Sports	465p (-16½p)
Gold Fields Prop	188½p (-8¼p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

Petfood looks tasty

IT IS not hard to see why Dalgety is in play. Corporate financiers will not have had to expend much brainpower to work out that, despite the frequent profit warnings and low rating, there is value in brands such as Felix and Winalot. But it is a big step from there to taking the plunge and bidding for the whole group.

The problem is that any break-up bidder would have to be prepared to pay well over £1 billion up front. To do this, they would have to be confident that they had committed buyers for all the various, ill-fitting parts of the group. This is where the difficulty will lie.

In the circumstances, few potential buyers are going to make any promises until they have been able to get inside the company they are interested in buying to have a good look around. The most obvious candidate to buy the petfood business would be Nestlé. It is a poor third in the European petfoods market, and would love to get its hands on the Felix catfood brand in particular.

Equally, Associated British Foods would be an obvious buyer of the ingredients business, although monopoly considerations would make it impossible for it to buy the flour-milling side.

The current Dalgety management is promising some action to accompany the outcome of a strategic review when it posts its preliminary results next month. This will probably be the last chance to convince the market that it is on the right track.

Otherwise, despite the difficulties, someone is likely to take a deep breath and offer upwards of 300p a share. That makes Dalgety a speculative buy at the current level.

Eurodollar

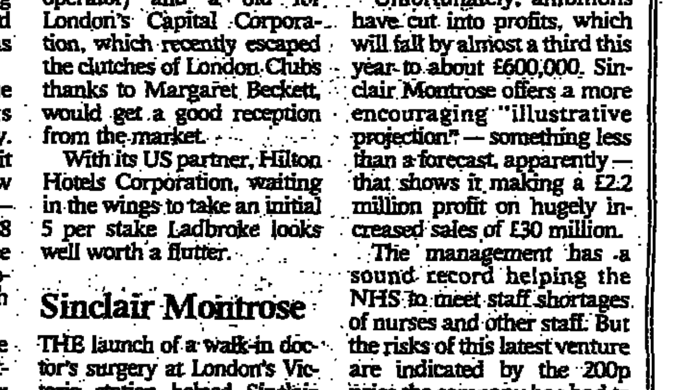
IT SEEMS to be an unwritten rule of the UK stock market that leasing and rental companies must always disappoint their investors. Another is that these businesses will eventually end up in the hands of the Americans, who appear to have more of a liking for the peculiar risks involved.

Eurodollar has performed true to form, though its record is positively impressive when measured alongside Central Transport Rental (née Tiphook), the trailer leasing company currently being swept up by GE Capital. Eurodollar's shareholders are being rescued by Republic Industries, a fast-growing American group.

Eurodollar, which arrived on the market only one year after a management buyout from TSB, would insist that its short-term car rental business is very different from the longer term nature of leasing. The fact remains that the company was blown off course not by the problems of the car rental market *per se*, but by the collapse in the prices it could command for its used vehicles.

In one horrific six month period in 1995 Eurodollar issued three profits warnings, first promising to maintain its dividend payment and then cutting it anyway. The shares have never fully recovered.

This problem of residual asset values raises its head again and again. Short of investing in GE Capital, investors need to tread carefully in this area.



Source: Datastream

Ladbroke

LADBROKE is often thought of more for its bid potential than for the fundamental strength of its underlying business. Yet in the past bid rumour after bid rumour has been shot down in flames.

These days, a punt on the gaming-to-Hilton hotels group looks far less risky. The announcement that it has won a precious new casino licence in London — the first awarded since 1988 — is just the latest evidence that management is establishing a business with strong growth potential.

Its interim results at the end of this month are expected to impress, with pre-tax profits rising from £72.8 million to £99 million and earnings per share jumping from 4.6p to 6.3p. Its betting shops are reaping the benefit of the popularity of numbers games such as Lucky Choice and 49's, while Hilton International is achieving steady increases in occupancy allied to higher room rates. It continues to develop a sound casino business (it recently signed a letter of intent to acquire Colorado's largest operator) and a bid for London's Capital Corporation, which recently escaped the clutches of London Clubs thanks to Margaret Beckett, would get a good reception from the market.

With its US partner, Hilton Hotels Corporation, waiting in the wings to take an initial 5 per stake Ladbroke looks well worth a flutter.

Sinclair Montrose

THE launch of a walk-in doctor's surgery at London's Victoria station helped Sinclair Montrose Healthcare to make a promising debut on AIM last summer. Floated at 140p, its shares are now at 262p.

With the Victoria Medicentre running close to capacity at £36 per consultation, and a second one just opened at Euston, Sinclair Montrose is raising £6.6 million to finance further openings. It plans 24 Medicentres by the end of next year, including one next door to a Sheffield Sainsbury's.

Unfortunately, ambitions have cut into profits, which will fall by almost a third this year to about £600,000. Sinclair Montrose offers a more encouraging "illustrative projection" — something less than a forecast, apparently — that shows it making a £2.2 million profit on hugely increased sales of £30 million.

The management has a sound record helping the NHS to meet staff shortages of nurses and other staff. But the risks of this latest venture are indicated by the 200p price the company has had to accept for its placing shares.

The company is changing fast and still has an appetite for more acquisitions and, horror of horrors, expanding into North America. Interesting, but the shares are for believers only at this stage.

EDITED BY PAUL DURMAN

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Sep	1023-1021	Dec	1130-1129
Dec	1055-1053	Mar	1144-1142
Mar	1075-1074	May	1155 SLR
May	1089-1086	Jul	unq
Jul	1106-1104		
Sep	1121-1120	Volume: 2254	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Sep	1650-1625	May	—
Nov	1630-1625	Jul	—
Jan	1600 BID	Sep	—
Mar	unq	Volume: 2178	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		May	321.9-19.9
Spot: n/a		Aug	319.8-16.5
Oct	323.1-21.5	Oct	313.7-10.0
Dec	321.5-20.6	Dec	313.6-10.0
Mar	322.2-21.9	Volume: 1814	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on August 8

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	72.22	114.64	99.61
(+/-)	-7.91	+5.94	+1.43
Eng/Wales	72.22	115.14	99.66
(+/-)	-7.91	+6.28	+1.47
[illegible]	-5.1	+32.0	+1.1
Scotland	unq	113.85	101.41
[illegible]		-4.25	+2.94
[illegible]		+14.0	-33.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.25	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Sep)	18.50	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Oct)	18.60	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	19.65	-0.35
W Texas Intermediate (Oct)	19.85	-0.30

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	215 (-14)	217 (-15)
Gasoil EEC	169 (-1)	170 (-2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	90 (-1)	94 (-1)
Naphtha	192 (-1)	195 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Aug	165.00-65.25	Nov	172.75-73.00
Sep	169.50-69.75	Dec	174.25-74.50
Oct	171.00-71.25	Vol: 17241	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Sep	18.46-18.47	Dec	18.85 BID
Oct	18.61-18.62	Jan	18.89-18.91
Nov	18.78 SLR	Vol: 18.82-18.90	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)

Sep	84.10
Nov	87.10
Jan	89.25
Mar	91.25
May	93.25
Volume: 438	

LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)

Sep	78.75
Nov	81.25
Jan	83.25
Mar	85.25
May	86.75
Volume: 155	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	62.0
Mar		107.5
Apr	124.0	123.5
Volume: 58		

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Aug 61.25-61.75

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Aug 97	1265	1265	1265
Sep 97	1325	1325	1325
Oct 97	1440	1440	1440
Jan 98	unq	unq	unq
Vol: 19 lots		Open Interest: 3065	

Index 1281 (+1)

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2322.0-2323.0	2295.0-2296.0	86552.5
Lead ($/tonne)	597.0-599.00	612.00-613.00	314825
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1734.0-1740.0	1552.0-1554.0	672475
Tin ($/tonne)	5500.0-5501.0	5545.0-5550.0	22000
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1748.0-1748.5	1732.5-1733.0	1737075
Nickel ($/tonne)	6965.0-6966.0	6965.0-6970.0	74620

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Alld Dom	420	46	55	59	[illegible]	14	16
(*457)	460	20	29½	36	14½	31½	37
ASDA	160	9½	14	16½	4	6	8
(*146)	180	1½	5	8	16½	17	19
[illegible]	750	59½	69½	—	14½	29	—
(*792)	800	34½	57	71	32	46	50
Br Airways	600	59	77	90	11	16	25½
(*642)	650	29½	49½	62	29	37	44
BP	850	61	85	96	14	25	32
(*894)	900	33	59	68	34	47	53
Br Steel	160	14	17½	21	4	7½	[illegible]
(*169)	180	4	8	11½	14	17½	18
C & W	550	57	74	87	10	19½	24
(*590)	600	24	46	59½	29½	41	49
CU	700	63	92	103	24½	40½	51
(*746)	750	40½	66½	76	46	65	73
ICI	1050	64½	96	113	31	45½	59
(*1097)	1100	36	69	86	55	64	82
Land Sec	900	64½	94	110½	13	20	27
(*945)	950	32½	54	70	29½	39½	43
M & S	550	55	66	79	7½	14	17
(*592)	600	24	39½	49	24½	32½	37
Nat West	800	70	105½	123	33	57	71
(*829)	850	45	84½	97½	55	[illegible]	[illegible]
Safeway plc	360	35	42½	49	5½	11½	14½
(*384)	390	19½	29½	35	17	24	29
Sainsbury	420	31½	41	51	10	15	19
(*429)	460	12½	22	30	30	36	39½
Shell Trans	433	25½	37½	—	11½	25	—
(*426)	450	16	29	—	26	37½	—
SmKl Bch	1100	59½	121½	140½	29	50	63½
(*1147)	1150	38	95½	121	50	77	96
Storehse	200	—	—	—	—	—	—
(und)	240	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trafalgar	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
(und)	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zeneca	1900	127	184	208	[illegible]	77	99
(*1954)	2000	74	132	153	92	118	144
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
BAT Ind	500	32	51	58	25	34½	47
(*511)	550	14	30	37	57	63½	72
Vodafone	300	25	33	39	7	13	16
(*315)	330	9½	18½	24½	21½	29	30½
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Grnd Met	550	38	59	75	0½	11	22½
(*587)	600	5½	29½	47	17½	31½	44½
Ladbroke	240	10	23	26	1	9	11
(*249)	260	1	10½	17	12	19½	21½
Utd Bisc	220	14½	20½	25½	0	8	7½
(*213)	230	2½	10	15	7½	15	17

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
BAA	550	33	53	62½	10	18	20
(*573)	600	11	27½	36	34½	43	48
Thames W	750	44	59½	69	13	22	27½
(*771)	800	19	34	44	36	43	49½
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
BTR	180	11	15½	23	1	9	11
(*190)	200	1	10	14½	11	20	21
Br Aero	1450	61½	110	130	3	36	47
(*1506)	1500	24	89	117½	17	57	66
Br Telcm	[illegible]	31½	47	54	2	11	16½
[illegible]	[illegible]	10½	30	37½	12	23½	29
Cadbury	500	25	45	61	5	18	25
[illegible]	550	2	21	36½	30	45½	51
Guinness	550	27	49	60	1½	15½	17
[illegible]	600	2	22	31	21	37	43½
GEC	[illegible]	17	27	35	3	15	19
[illegible]	420	[illegible]	14	21	28	31	33
Hanson	330	5	20	30	4	16½	31
[illegible]	360	11	9	17	29½	35	38
LucasVarity	200	[illegible]	18	25	3½	12½	16
[illegible]	220	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	14½	15½
Pilkington	140	12	—	—	[illegible]	—	—
(*152)	160	[illegible]	—	—	[illegible]	—	—
Prudential	500	26	46	72½	[illegible]	20	36
(*523)	650	7	25	49½	[illegible]	59½	61
Redland	300	12	26	36	1	11	15½
(*313)	330	1	12	19	17	27	31½
R-Royce	240	15½	24½	21	0	9	11
(*254)	260	2	13	21	8	19	20½
Tesco	380	27	[illegible]	[illegible]	0	9	14½
(*416)	420	5	27	33	9	21	29
Williams	340	—	—	—	—	—	—
(und)	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*5038)

	4900	4950	5000	5050	5100	5150
Calls						
Aug	152	109½	69	33	17	7½
Sep	227	190½	159	129	103	82
Oct	266½	234½	204½	175	149½	124½
Nov	309½	275	247½	217	190	169
Dec	351	—	294	—	227	—
Puts						
Aug	9	17	29	47	79	120½
Sep	63	77	97½	119½	145	175
Oct	99	109	127	147	170	190
Nov	115	122½	152	172½	195½	224
Dec	129½	—	166½	—	211½	—

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Abby Natl	800	64½	96	108	29	45½	56
(*829½)	850	35	71½	82	53	70	79
Amstrad	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(und)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barclays	1400	58	145	162½	49½	102	116
(*1418)	1450	63½	120	138½	95½	127½	141
Natl Pwr	500	52½	64	71	11½	16½	19
(*542)	550	25½	37½	44½	31½	39	41½
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Glaxo Well	1250	98½	124	148	31	51½	67
(*1290)	1300	65	98	121½	57	75	98½
HSBC	2300	127½	206	257	85	134	159½
(*2339)	2400	81	154½	205½	139	184	229
Reuter	650	43	67½	80	16	29	38
(*675)	700	17	41½	53½	40½	53	62
Royal & Sun	500	59½	77	84	9½	19	24
(*552)	550	29	47½	55	29	42	45½
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Blue Circ	420	29½	33½	40½	1	12	17
(*448)	460	2½	16	20	14½	30	35
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Kingfshr	700	38	62½	77½	2	21	26½
(*734)	750	5	37½	51	21	41	47
	Series	Jun			Jun		
Br Gas	240	—	—	—	—	—	—
(und)	260	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Series	Sep	Dec	Mar	Sep	Dec	Mar
Dixons	600	27	52	62	19	31	36½
(*607)	650	9½	29½	39½	49	60½	65½
EMI Group	575	26	45½	61	16½	32	34
(*570)	600	14½	35	48	36	47½	53
Tarmac	120	9½	12½	16½	2	5½	7
(*125)	130	3	8½	11½	7	13½	12
Hillsdwn	160	2½	—	—	3½	—	—
(*162)	180	1	—	—	18	—	—
Lonrho	120	9½	13	15½	2½	4½	7½
(*124)	130	4½	8½	12	8	9	12½
Sears	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
(und)	70	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	—	—	—	—	—	—
(und)	1600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	330	11½	21	26½	10	16	19½
(*321)	360	2	9	13½	31	34	36½
Lloyds TSB	750	45	76½	97	29	49	57
(*762)	800	22½	55	72½	57	75	83
Scot Pwr	420	27	34½	45½	7½	16	21
(*440)	460	9	21½	27	30	37½	40½
Unilever	1900	56	121	164½	42½	81	90
(*1902)	2000	18½	75	117	106	137½	144

August 11 1997 Tot: 31667 Calls: 16025 Puts: 15642 FTSE Calls: 7202 Puts: 3157
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt Previous open interest 192892	Sep 97	114-04	114-18	114-03	114-08	36423
	Dec 97	113-31	113-31	113-27	113-27	63
German Govt Bond (Bund) Previous open interest 296832	Sep 97	101.59	102.02	101.58	101.90	112067
	Dec 97	101.00	101.06	101.00	101.07	140
Italian Govt Bond (BTP) Previous open interest 108761	Sep 97	135.30	135.85	135.30	135.54	32223
	Dec 97				107.78	0
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Sep 97	126.62	126.66	126.53	126.65	1280
	Dec 97	126.01	126.02	126.01	126.02417	
Three Mth Sterling	Sep 97	92.78	92.79	92.76	92.76	6132
	Dec 97	92.66	92.68	92.62	92.63	15285
Previous open interest 652423	Mar 98	92.64	92.66	92.60	92.61	10169
Three Mth Euromark Previous open interest 1646124	Sep 97	96.67	96.68	96.66	96.67	11409
	Dec 97	96.50	96.54	96.50	96.51	26635
Three Mth Eurolira Previous open interest 374759	Sep 97	93.19	93.21	93.18	93.20	6780
	Dec 97	93.51	93.53	93.48	93.50	8101
Three Mth Euroyen	Dec 97				99.34	0
	Mar 98				99.23	0
Three Mth Euroswiss Previous open interest 145896	Sep 97	98.44	98.46	98.41	98.43	3585
	Dec 97	98.24	98.26	98.21	98.23	2705
Three Mth ECU Previous open interest 39624	Sep 97	95.64	95.65	95.62	95.65	590
	Dec 97	95.61	95.61	95.57	95.58	415
FTSE 100 Previous open interest 78732	Sep 97	5033.0	5090.0	4993.0	5062.0	10730
	Dec 97	5092.0	5145.0	5092.0	5127.0	115

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7 Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 8½ Low 6⅞ Week fixed: 7⅛
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅞; 3 mth 6⅞. Sell: 2 mth 6¾; 3 mth: 6¾.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	7-6⅞	7⅛-7⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛
Interbank:	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛
Overnight: open 7⅛ close 8½.					
Local Authority Deps:	7	n/a	7⅛	7⅛	7⅛
Sterling CDs:	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛
Dollar CDs:	5.57	n/a	5.63	5.77	6.00
Building Society CDs:	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5½	[illegible]	5⅝-5½	[illegible]	5½-4¾
Deutschemark:	3⅛-3	3⅛-3	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2¾
French Franc:	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2¾
Swiss Franc:	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-¾
Yen:	½-¼	½-¼	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $326.50-327.10 Close: $327.30-327.80 High: $327.70-328.20
Low: $326.50-327.00 AM: $326.20 PM: $327.70

Krugerrand: $327.00-329.00 (£205.75-207.75)

Platinum: $444.50 (£279.65) Silver: $4.45 (£2.795) Palladium: $234.00 (£147.20)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for August 11	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.3198-3.3369	3.3219-3.3248	1⅛-1pr	3⅛-3pr
Brussels	60.840-61.200	60.904-61.006	22-17pr	58-51pr
Copenhagen	11.215-11.282	11.229-11.238	⅛-⅛pr	⅛-⅛pr
Dublin	1.0986-1.1099	1.1048-1.1071	11-5pr	29-21pr
Frankfurt	2.9440-2.9617	2.9484-2.9510	1⅛-1pr	2⅛-2⅛pr
Lisbon	298.06-299.69	298.24-298.58	⅛-⅛pr	1⅛-1pr
Madrid	248.55-249.93	248.94-249.15	41-31pr	116-97pr
Milan	2875.2-2890.3	2876.3-2879.6	9-6ds	25-3pr
Montreal	2.2068-2.2195	2.2135-2.2177	0.71-0.65	1.36-1.27
New York	1.5874-1.5940	1.5902-1.5912	0.215-0.195pr	0.565-0.555pr
Oslo	12.085-12.185	12.124-12.140	⅛-⅛pr	1-⅛pr
Paris	9.9250-9.9770	9.9316-9.9418	3⅛-3⅛pr	9⅛-9⅛pr
Stockholm	12.610-12.711	12.679-12.698	⅛-⅛pr	⅛-⅛pr
Tokyo	183.07-184.70	183.98-184.21	1⅛-1pr	3⅛-3pr
Vienna	20.726-20.843	20.745-20.765	⅛-⅛pr	2-1⅛pr
Zurich	2.4080-2.4231	2.4200-2.4231	1-1⅛pr	3⅛-3⅛pr

Source: Extel Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3540-1.3550
Austria	13.06-13.07
Belgium (Com)	38.34-38.35
Canada	1.3927-1.3932
Denmark	7.0708-7.0728
France	6.2543-6.2563
Germany	1.8560-1.8570
Hong Kong	7.7422-7.7432
Ireland	1.4353-1.4373
Italy	1809.50-1810.00
Japan	115.80-115.90
Malaysia	2.7350-2.7400
Netherlands	2.0907-2.0927
Norway	7.6274-7.6324
Portugal	187.75-187.85
Singapore	1.4828-1.4838
Spain	156.52-156.55
Sweden	7.9564-7.9614
Switzerland	1.5214-1.5224

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5895-1.5921
Australia dollar	2.1522-2.1550
Bahrain dinar	0.5920-0.6040
Brazil real*	1.7214-1.7257
China yuan	12.994-13.294
Cyprus pound	0.8565-0.8665
Finland markka	8.7125-8.8285
Greece drachma	456.25-463.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.3055-12.3148
India rupee	56.16-57.12
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4785-0.4885
Malaysia ringgit	4.3465-4.3574
New Zealand dollar	2.4688-2.4723
Pakistan rupee	63.75 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.7100-5.8340
Singapore dollar	2.3565-2.3597
S Africa rand (com)	7.3490-7.4510
U A E dirham	5.7625-5.8865

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	2,300	Ladbroke	1,600
ASDA Gp	6,000	Land Secs	658
Abbey Ntl	2,700	Legal & Gn	1,000
Alince & Leic	1,400	Lloyds TSB	9,100
Allied Dom	1,700	LucasVarity	5,100
AB Foods	905	Marks Spr	2,500
BAA	2,300	Mercury Ast	288
BAT Inds	7,200	NatWst Bk	2,700
BG	8,000	Nat Grid	4,600
BOC	1,500	Nat Power	842
BP	8,400	Next	1,100
BSkyB	771	Orange	537
BTR	15,400	P & O	1,700
BT	15,800	Pearson	854
Bk of Scot	1,700	PowerGen	2,500
Barclays	2,600	Prudential	3,300
Bass	847	RMC	143
Blue Circle	1,200	Railtrack	798
Boots	1,200	Rank Group	1,900
BAe	1,400	Reckitt Col	1,500
BA	1,800	Reed Intl	3,300
British Land	699	Rentokil	2,500
Brit Steel	6,300	Reuters	2,000
Burmah Cstl	448	Rio Tinto	2,200
Cable Wire	3,400	Rolls Royce	2,700
Cadbury	2,500	Royal & Sun	5,500
Carlton Cms	586	Royal Bk Sct	1,300
Centrica	10,000	Safeway	1,500
Cm Union	3,600	Sainsbury	2,300
Dixons	2,500	Schroders	77
EMI	2,000	Scot & New	1,200
Energy Gp	843	Scot Power	894
Enterpr Oil	1,000	Svrn Trent	971
GKN	694	Shell Trans	12,600
GRE	943	Siebe	376
GUS	619	SmKl Bch	5,200
Gen Acc	1,100	Smiths Inds	777
Gen Elec	9,900	Std Chartd	2,500
Glaxo Well	5,500	TI Gp	2,600
Granada	2,400	Tate & Lyle	406
Grand Met	3,300	Tesco	3,700
Guinness	2,200	Thames W	521
HSBC	2,500	Tomkins	3,300
Halifax	4,800	Unilever	781
Hanson	2,300	Utd Utilities	1,400
Hays	352	Utd News	1,500
ICI	5,200	Vodafone	6,200
Imp Tob	3,100	Whitbread	339
Kingfisher	1,000	Wolseley	1,500
LASMO	1,400	Zeneca	2,200

WALL STREET

	Aug 11 midday	Aug 8 close
AMP Inc	50⅞	51⅛
AMR Corp	105⅞	106¼
AT & T	41½	40⅞
Abbott Labs	63⅞	63⅞
Advanced Micro	36⅛	36⅛
Aetna Life	97⅞	97⅞
Ahmanson (HF)	50⅛	49⅞
Air Prod & Chem	83⅛	83⅞
AirTouch Comm	35⅞	34⅞
Albertson's	35⅞	35⅞
Alcan Alumnm	38⅞	38⅞
Allied Signal	89⅞	90
Alum Co of Am	86⅞	85⅞
Amerada Hess	57⅞	57⅞
Amer El Power	42⅞	42⅞
Amer Express	81½	80⅞
Amer Genl Corp	51⅛	51⅛
Amer Home Pr	76⅛	78⅞
Amer Intl	98⅞	99⅞
Amer Stores	23⅞	23⅞
Amer Standard	50⅞	50
Ameritech	66⅞	66⅞
Amgen	57⅞	57⅞
Amoco	95⅞	94⅞
Andrew Corp	26⅞	26⅞
Anheuser-Busch	43⅞	43⅞
Apple Computer	20⅞	20⅞
Archer Daniels	22⅞	22⅞
Armco	5⅞	5⅞
Armstrng Wrld	73⅞	73⅞
Asarco	32⅞	33⅞
Atl Richfield	75⅞	74⅞
Avnet Corp	37⅞	36⅞
Auto Data Pro	48⅞	47⅞
Avery Dennison	43⅞	43⅞
Avon Products	66⅞	68⅞
Baker Hughes	42⅞	42⅞
Baltim Gas & El	28⅞	28⅞
Banc One	52⅞	51⅞
BankAmerica	68⅞	68⅞
Bank of NY	45⅞	45⅞
Bankers Tr NY	98⅞	98⅞
Barnett Banks	54⅞	53⅞
Bausch & Lomb	43⅞	43⅞
Baxter Intl	54⅞	55⅞
Bectn Dickinsn	49⅞	48⅞
Bell Atlantic	72⅞	73⅞
BellSouth	46⅞	46⅞
Black & Decker	41⅞	41⅞
Block (H&R)	38⅞	38⅞
Boeing	58⅞	59⅞
Boise Cascade	36⅞	36⅞
Boston Scien	79⅞	79⅞
Bristol Myrs Sq	78	77
Browning Ferris	35	34⅞
Brunswick	32	31⅞
Burlington Nthn	97⅞	95⅞
CMS Energy Corp	35⅞	35⅞
CPC Intl	92⅞	92⅞
CSX	59⅞	59⅞
Campbell Soup	49⅞	49⅞
Carolina Pwr	34⅞	34⅞
Case Corp	63⅞	64⅞
Caterpillar	58⅞	58⅞
Central & SW	19⅞	19⅞
Champion Intl	60⅞	60⅞
Chase Manhat	107⅞	109⅞
Chevron Corp	78⅞	77⅞
Chrysler	36⅞	36⅞
Chubb Corp	66⅞	67⅞
Cigna Corp	189⅞	190⅞
Citicorp	134	134
Clorox	133⅞	134⅞
Coastal Corp	55⅞	54⅞
Coca Cola	67⅞	67⅞
Coca Cola Ent	29⅞	29⅞
Colgate-Palm	69⅞	70
Columbia Gas	67⅞	67⅞
ColumbiaHCA	33⅞	33⅞
Compaq Comp	59⅞	60⅞
Comp Ass Intl	66⅞	67⅞
Conrail	87	86⅞
Cons Edison	31⅞	31⅞
Cons Nat Gas	56⅞	56⅞
Cooper Inds	55⅞	55⅞
CoreStates	61⅞	61⅞
Corning Inc	63⅞	62⅞
C'wide Credit	33⅞	33⅞
Crestar Finl	45⅞	46⅞
Crown Cork	52⅞	53⅞
Dana Corp	46⅞	46⅞
Dayton Hudson	65⅞	66⅞
Deere	55⅞	57⅞
Delta Air Lines	89⅞	89⅞
Deluxe Corp	33⅞	33⅞
Digital Equip	44⅞	45⅞
Dillard Dept St	39⅞	39⅞
Disney (Walt)	78⅞	79⅞
Dominion Res	36⅞	36⅞
Donelley (RR)	39⅞	39⅞
Dover Corp	70	69⅞
Dow Chemical	93⅞	93⅞
Dow Jones	42⅞	41⅞
Dresser	40⅞	40⅞
Duke Power	49⅞	49⅞
Dun & Bradstreet	27⅞	27⅞
Du Pont	66⅞	67⅞
Eastman Chem	59⅞	59⅞
Eastman Kodak	65⅞	66⅞
Eaton Corp	85⅞	85⅞
Edison Int	25⅞	25⅞
Elect Data Sys	36⅞	37
Emerson Elec	58⅞	58⅞
Engelhard Corp	21⅞	22⅞
Enron Corp	36⅞	36⅞
Entergy	25⅞	25⅞
Ethyl Corp	9	9
Exxon	62⅞	62⅞
FMC Corp	87	86⅞
FPL Group	47⅞	47⅞
Federal Express	63⅞	62⅞
Fifth Third Banc	61⅞	61⅞
Fleet Finl Grp	66⅞	66⅞
Fluor Corp	60⅞	60
Ford Motor	41⅞	41
Fortune Brands	35⅞	35⅞
Franklin Res	79⅞	79⅞
GTE Corp	47	47
Gannett	97⅞	97⅞
Gap Inc Del	43⅞	43⅞
Gen Dynamics	85⅞	85⅞
Gen Electric	67⅞	67⅞
Gen Mills	68⅞	69
Gen Motors	61⅞	62⅞
Gen Reinsurance	196⅞	196⅞
Gen Signal	47⅞	47⅞
Genuine Parts	32⅞	32⅞
Georgia Pac	93⅞	93
Gillette	92⅞	93
Glaxo Wellc ADR	41⅞	41⅞
Goodrich (BF)	45	44⅞
Goodyear Tire	64⅞	64⅞
Grt Atl Pac Tea	26⅞	26⅞
Great Lakes	47⅞	47⅞
Halliburton	44⅞	45⅞
Harcourt General	47⅞	47⅞
Heinz (HJ)	43⅞	43⅞
Hercules	52⅞	53
Hershey Foods	54⅞	53⅞
Hewlett Packard	68⅞	69⅞
Hilton Hotels	30⅞	31
Home Depot	48⅞	48⅞
Homestake Mng	14⅞	14⅞
Honeywell	72⅞	72⅞
Household Intl	120⅞	120⅞
Houston Inds	21⅞	21⅞
Humana	23⅞	23⅞
ITT Corp	65⅞	63⅞
Ikon Office	27⅞	28⅞
Illinois Tool	48⅞	48⅞
Illinova	22⅞	22⅞
INCO	30⅞	30⅞
Ingersoll Rand	62⅞	62⅞
Inland Steel	22	22⅞
Intel Corp	96⅞	97⅞
IBM	104⅞	105⅞
Intl Flav & Fr	51⅞	51⅞
Intl Paper	55⅞	55⅞
James River Va	43⅞	42⅞
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	59⅞	59⅞
Kellogg	96⅞	97⅞
Kerr-McGee	62⅞	61⅞
Kimberly-Clark	50⅞	50⅞
Kmart	11⅞	11⅞
Knight-Ridder	50⅞	50⅞
Lilly (Eli)	111⅞	112⅞
Limited Inc	21⅞	21⅞
Lincoln Nat	68⅞	68⅞
Litton	49⅞	49⅞
Liz Claiborne	47⅞	47⅞
Lockheed Martin	105⅞	104⅞
Louisiana Pac	22⅞	23⅞
MCI Comm	33⅞	33⅞
Manpower Inc	49⅞	49⅞
Marriott Int	67⅞	67⅞
Marsh & McLnn	73⅞	73⅞
Masco Corp	46⅞	47
May Dept St	53⅞	53⅞
Maytag Corp	28⅞	29
McDonalds	51⅞	51⅞
McGraw Hill	64⅞	65⅞
Mead Corp	70⅞	70⅞
Medtronic	94⅞	94⅞
Mellon Bk	46⅞	47
Merck Inc	96⅞	98⅞
Mercury Fin	2⅞	2⅞
Merrill Lynch	64⅞	65⅞
Microsoft	139⅞	140
Minnesota Mine	94⅞	94⅞
Mirage Resorts	25⅞	26⅞
Mobil Corp	74⅞	72⅞
Monsanto	46⅞	46⅞
Morgan (JP)	111⅞	110⅞
Motorola Inc	79⅞	80⅞
Natl Semi	35⅞	34
Natl Service Ind	46⅞	45⅞
Navistar Int	20⅞	20⅞
NY Times A	47⅞	47⅞
Newmont Mng	42⅞	43⅞
Nike B	58⅞	59
NL Industries	13	13⅞
Nordstrom	59⅞	57⅞
Norfolk Sthn	108⅞	108
Nthn States Pwr	49⅞	49⅞
Norwest Corp	59⅞	59⅞
Nynex Corp	55⅞	55⅞
Occidental Pet	24⅞	24⅞
Ohio Edison	21⅞	21⅞
Oracle	57⅞	57⅞
Oryx Energy Co	24⅞	25
Owens Corning	41⅞	42⅞
PPG Industries	64⅞	64⅞
PMI Group	58	59⅞
PNC Bank	42⅞	42⅞
PP&L Res	20⅞	20⅞
Paccar Inc	45⅞	45⅞
Pacificorp	20⅞	20⅞
Pac Enterprises	31⅞	32
Pall Corp	24⅞	24⅞
Parker Hannifin	65⅞	65⅞
Peco Energy	22⅞	22⅞
Penney (JC)	57⅞	57⅞
Pennzoil	76⅞	76⅞
Pepsico	37⅞	37⅞
Pfizer	53⅞	55⅞
Pharm & Upjhn	35⅞	36⅞
Phelps Dodge	86⅞	85⅞
Philip Morris	44⅞	44⅞
Phillips Pet	48⅞	47⅞
Pitney Bowes	76⅞	76⅞
Polaroid	58⅞	58⅞
Procter & Gmbl	144⅞	143⅞
Providian	37⅞	37
Pub Serv E & G	24⅞	24⅞
Quaker Oats	49⅞	49⅞
Ralston Purina	89⅞	88⅞
Raychem Corp	94⅞	94⅞
Raytheon	57	57
Reebok Intl	50⅞	50⅞
Reynolds Metals	76⅞	77⅞
Rockwell Intl	63	63⅞
Rohm & Haas	97⅞	97⅞
Royal Dutch	53⅞	53⅞
Rubbermaid	26⅞	26⅞
SBC Comms	58⅞	57⅞
Safeco Corp	46⅞	46⅞
St Paul's Cos	75⅞	74⅞
Sallie Mae	140⅞	141⅞
Salomon Inc	62⅞	63⅞
Sara Lee Corp	42⅞	42⅞
Schering Plough	50⅞	51⅞
Schlumberger	74⅞	75⅞
Seagram	36⅞	36⅞
Sears Roebuck	62⅞	62⅞
Shell Trans	42	41⅞
Sherwin Wllms	30⅞	31
Silicon Graphics	26⅞	26⅞
Snap-On-Tools	41⅞	41⅞
Southern Co	21⅞	21⅞
Southtrust	44⅞	44⅞
Sprint Corp	48	47⅞
Stanley Works	44	43⅞
Sun Company	36⅞	37
Sun Microsys	48⅞	49⅞
Suntrust	61⅞	61⅞
Supervalu	39⅞	39⅞
Synovus Fin	26⅞	26⅞
Sysco Corp	35⅞	35⅞
TRW Inc	56	56⅞
TIG Hldgs	31⅞	31⅞
Tandem Comp	30⅞	31⅞
Tandy Corp	63⅞	62⅞
Temple Inland	67⅞	68⅞
Tenet Healthcare	27	27⅞
Tenneco	46⅞	46⅞
Texaco	113⅞	112⅞
Texas Inst	123⅞	124
Texas Utilities	34⅞	34⅞
Textron	65⅞	65⅞
Thermo Elect	36⅞	36⅞
Time Warner	52⅞	52⅞
Times-Mirror A	50	49⅞
Timken	35⅞	35⅞
Torchmark	37⅞	37⅞
Toys R Us	33⅞	33⅞
Transamerica	97⅞	97⅞
Travelers	66⅞	66⅞
Tribune	50⅞	51
UST Inc	29⅞	29⅞
US Bancorp	87⅞	91⅞
UAL	79⅞	79⅞
UST Inds	38⅞	38⅞
US West Comm	37⅞	37⅞
US West Media	21⅞	21
USAirways Group	37⅞	37⅞
USX Marathon	31⅞	31⅞
Unicom	22⅞	22⅞
Unilever NV	220⅞	220⅞
Union Camp	59	59⅞
Union Carbide	54⅞	55⅞
Union Pacific	70⅞	70⅞
Unisys Corp	10⅞	10⅞
USF&G Corp	23⅞	22⅞
United Tech	81⅞	82⅞
Unocal Corp	39⅞	39⅞
VF Corp	87⅞	87⅞
Wal-Mart Stores	37	37⅞
Warner-Lambert	135⅞	136⅞
Waste Mngmnt	32⅞	32⅞
Wells Fargo	267⅞	261⅞
Westinghouse El	26⅞	26⅞
Weyerhaeuser	61⅞	61⅞
Whirlpool	54⅞	55
Whitman	25⅞	25⅞
Winn Dixie	35	35⅞
Witco Corp	45⅞	45⅞
Woolworth	27⅞	27⅞
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	73⅞	74⅞
Xerox	77⅞	77⅞
Xilinx Inc	54⅞	54⅞

Sighs of relief follow the crash that wasn't

A growing band of investors expects the growling bear to emerge and bite those still in equities. Adam Jones reports

Leviathan failed to rise from the sea yesterday as the market ignored weekend speculation that London share prices were about to be blown away by Friday's big fall on Wall Street. The market didn't crash, maybe because many of the investment managers who might turn bearish are actually on holiday. But while the FTSE 100 index hovers at about 5,000, few seem to think it will stay there. The correction seems to be constantly around the corner.

Research from Merrill Lynch gave more ammunition to the bears. In a survey carried out a day before the latest quarter-point rate rise, UK fund managers said they expected base rates to be at 7.4 per cent a year from now. Only a quarter said UK economic activity would be stronger in 12 months' time, with buyers of gilts outnumbering sellers by 22 per cent. On a three-month view, the survey says fund managers are expecting a fall in almost all the world's equity markets. Few are saying how much of a fall they expect. Templeton Investment Management, the Bermuda investor, has tracked bull and bear markets since 1954, using the MSCI World Index, extrapolating backwards for periods not covered by this type of measurement.

It says the average bear market decline has been about 20 per cent. The average total appreciation during a bull market is 100 per cent: this is almost exactly the difference between today and the start of the current bull run in October 1990.

The averages have been skewed by the short, sharp rises and falls of the 1980s, boom-bust stories that are likely to be seen by future generations as anomalous in their scale because of the rich fuel provided by the fall of Communism and the awakening of China as a modern trading giant. Templeton's message is that the bears have been tamer than the popular consciousness remembers, and that they are all smoothed out in the long run, which is often shorter than it seems.

Dr Sandy Nairn, who conducted the research, says there is still good value to be found in UK manufacturing stocks, under a cloud because of the strength of the pound.

There are many who still believe in the bear's bite. Changes in Gordon Brown's first Budget, such as the abolition of tax credits on dividends, have left them even more convinced that the correction will be nasty. Given the unwanted celebrity experienced by Tony Dye, of Phillips & Drew Fund Management, who put 15 per cent of clients' money into cash two-and-a-half-years ago and has seen the markets rise without him, they are understandably much less keen to pop their heads above the parapet.

Yesterday, one fund manager at the forefront of the "dash for cash" said: "The markets are incredibly overvalued. We can't say when the psychology is going to change, however." He added that the turnover in the US during recent periods of anxiety had been too big to be branded silly-season behaviour.

Another publicity-shy investment chief at a leading British asset manager was less pessimistic, saying he expects the FTSE to be below 5,000 by the end of the year. Elsewhere, George Hodgson, UK market strategist at SBC Warburg, says he thinks fair value for the FTSE is 4,650, implying a fall of about 10 per cent at current levels, but he would not be drawn on when. After the easing of yesterday's fears, he said: "Almost all London-based analysts have been surprised at how relaxed the US markets have been about the inflationary pressures."

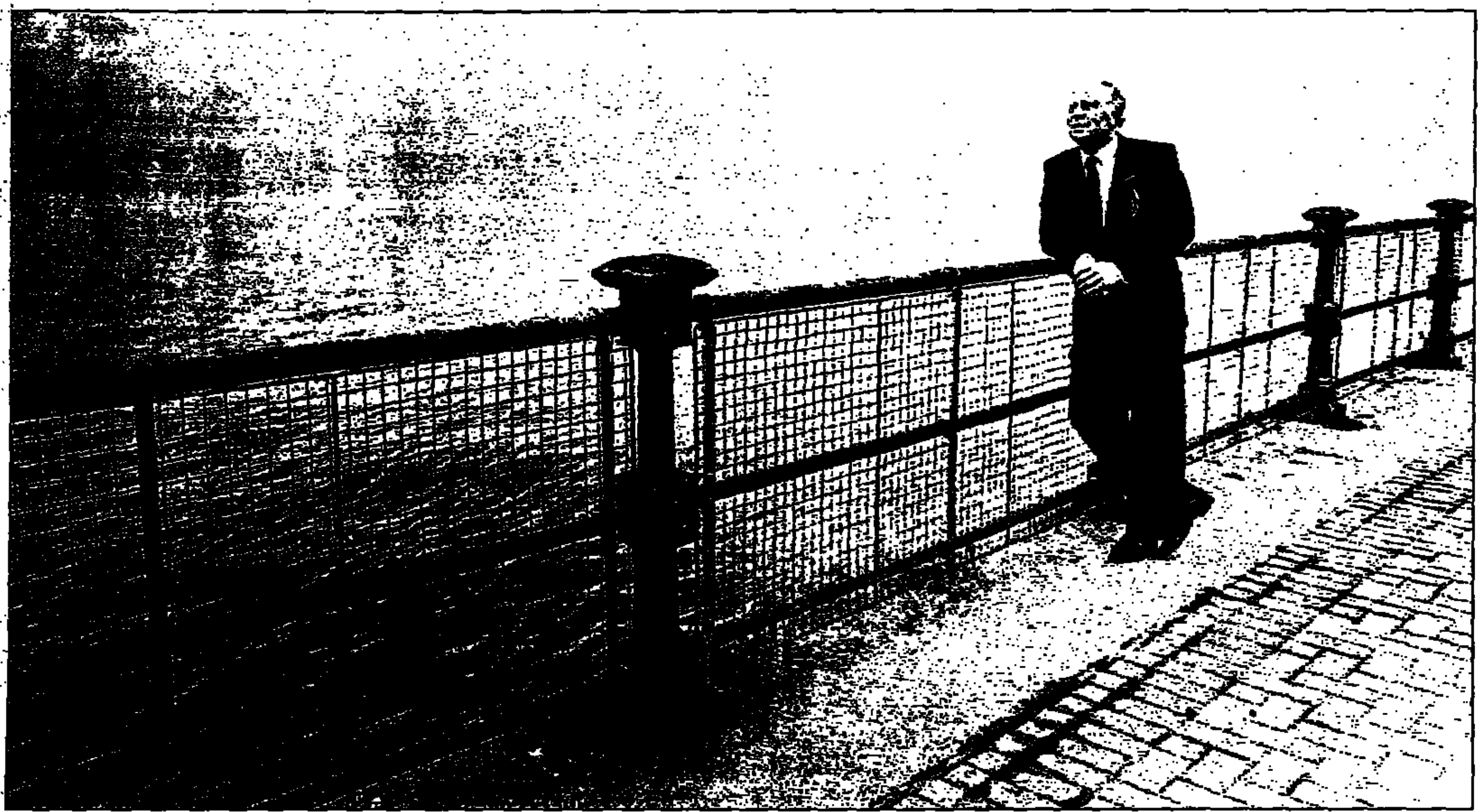
Nikko Europe is advocating a return to value investing — buying shares on their underlying strengths rather than their perceived momentum. It believes any correction would not be large enough to spark a bear market, even if the drop was into double figures in percentage terms.

John Betteridge, head of investment strategy at Prudential Corporation, believes the FTSE is likely to be around the current level at the end of the year, with continuing volatility over the next few months.

The Pru has not materially changed its investment policy recently. Although Mr Betteridge says overvaluation is rife, he believes value can be found in UK property and small companies globally, and doesn't discount a gradual slowdown in markets rather than an abrupt correction.

'King of the fat cats' prepares to confront power of the City

Christine Buckley on the latest battle of the rumbustious chairman of United Utilities



Sir Desmond Pitcher has long thrived in a hostile busineses environment but today's confrontation may see him forced to give ground

Sir Desmond Pitcher enjoys a fight. Today, he will be in truly pugilistic mode as he struggles for his corporate future at United Utilities.

During his controversial career, the 62-year-old professional Merseysider has leapt into the ring against company chiefs and top politicians without flinching, but this time the man dubbed "king of the fat cats" is taking on the weight of the City establishment and the odds are against him.

Institutional shareholders have become increasingly unhappy that United seems nothing more than a corporate toy in the steely grip of a chairman who will not share power. Their muttered uneasiness has turned into vociferous demands for change after the peremptory sacking of Brian Staples as chief executive last month. The chances are that, even if Sir Desmond remains executive chairman tonight, he will have had to concede that he will depart somewhat sooner than the retirement date of 2000 he had set for himself.

But shareholders should not have been surprised by Sir Desmond's difficulty over sharing power. As chief executive of Littlewoods, he was not entirely thrilled with the appointment as chairman of John Clements, then chairman of Unigate. Clements had ideas about his role that went beyond the merely nominal. They, and he, did not survive long.

As recently as last week, Sir Desmond was confident that he could see off the latest challenge to his supremacy. Resisting calls to elaborate on Mr Staples's departure and institute changes in the United Utilities organisation, he told *The Times*: "When we come to the half-year results, the matter will be over." He seriously underestimated the scale of the City's concern, and United is now responding to an emergency in which Sir Peter Middleton, the BZW chairman and senior United non-executive, has acted as a conduit for investor anger.

Sir Desmond said last week that there would be no further information for investors until November. "We don't believe it is in his [Mr Staples's] interests, or the company's to give an explanation that would lead to speculation and comment and debate." Now his hand has been forced.

Hostility is an environment in which he thrives. As the public fury over "fat-cat" salaries for utility chiefs reached a crescendo, Sir Desmond remained unperturbed. He gave short shrift to the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee when they raised concerns about the soaring level of executive pay.

His words and unabashed attitude came to haunt him at a rumbustious annual meeting last year. A parade of fat cats disrupted the Manchester meeting and it was Ian McCartney, now Industry Minister, who dubbed Sir Desmond king of the fat cats. Plans for the executive directors to reward themselves with a long-term incentive scheme that offered bonuses of up to 87 per cent of already high salaries was deemed beyond the what might be termed proper. Pressure forced them to moderate the scheme.

Nevertheless Sir Desmond, who has a basic salary of £310,000, has earned more than £1.8 million in pay, bonuses and other benefits in under four years at the company, which started as North West Water and then became United after the takeover of Norweb, the electricity business, two years ago.

Anger over pay reached frightening proportions a couple of months ago when Sir Desmond became the victim of a firebomb attack on his mansion in Cheshire. The police reported a caller who claimed responsibility for the attack as saying: "All of the fat cats are terrorist targets".

The thrice-married Sir Desmond, who has another home in Surrey and a £500,000 yacht moored in the Mediterranean, has remained defiant. After last month's annual meeting he said he couldn't understand the fuss about executive pay. He had, after all, been used to high levels of pay in his previous corporate life. He could hve earned more if he had stayed at Littlewoods, the pools, retail and mail order business where he became known as Mr Merseyside.

Opinion is divided on the achievements of his decade running that business: he did much to bring it up to date but failed to make its stores into effective competitors on the high street. And his contribution is now tarnished by the messy legal battles over its Far Eastern operations.

Sir Desmond has denied all allegations but with court hearings not expected until 1999, it is a while before he can lay that matter to rest. If the action proves successful Sir Desmond could face a claim for damages from the company he left nearly four years ago but remained on the board as a non-executive member until two years ago.

As James Ross is now finding, running a family-owned firm, particularly one with a tendency to internecine warfare, can be tricky. Sir Desmond survived for so long by playing a shrewd political game. Critics say he is as much a politician as a businessman. Without ever standing for election, the man from a Knotty Ash council estate has become a major figure in public life in Merseyside. Knighted in 1992 for services to Liverpool, he has involved himself in a number of local enterprises, ranging from the arts to a directorship at Everton Football Club. He is also one of the many non-executive directors of NatWest, another organisation where investors have been voicing qualms over the management.

Several colleagues from the Mersey scene sit alongside him on the board of United. He has chaired the Merseyside Development Corporation for the past six years and it has occasioned some comment that Eric Clark, a non-executive director at MDC, is also chairman of United's remuneration committee. But Sir Desmond has blithely ignored any carping and continued to enjoy his role as a public figure. He had hoped for a high-profile job in the public sector and apparently volunteered to be chairman of British Rail before Sir Bob Reid got the job. The chairmanship of a major utility struck him as being in a similar league, and it was the chairmanship of North West that persuaded him to leave Littlewoods in 1993, with the comment that this was a company big enough for him to run.

The company has now grown into the much larger United Utilities but it was only a short time after Sir Desmond's arrival that Bob Thien, then chief executive, was walking out of the door, the first victim of Sir Desmond's difficulties over power-sharing. When Mr Staples was recruited as his successor Sir Desmond welcomed him as someone who could work in a team. Industry and investment sources have no doubt that Mr Staples could have worked in a team.

They certainly doubt Sir Desmond's ability to do so.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Opting for tax credits could offer viable way of controlling inflation

From Mr M. Donald Bishop

Sir, This letter outlines a case for controlling inflation directly by tax credits rather than indirectly by the Bank of England's imposed bank rate.

We are told that Government has only two instruments for controlling inflation — taxation and interest rates. For policy reasons the first is not in play. The second, in my opinion, is less than satisfactory. The effect of higher interest rates must be severely lagged, the pound strengthened and, consequently, exports stifled and imports promoted. Inevitably, investment and employment will fall. Inflation apart, all these consequences run counter to declared Government policy.

If taxation is not an option, consumer spending could be tackled by a system akin to "post-war credits". This, if I recall aright, took the form of a surcharge on the rates of personal taxation, which then formed deferred interest-bearing tax credits. These were intended to be gradually released as tax credits when the economy needed to be stimulated, with arrangements to cope with changes in the circumstances of individual taxpayers.

Such a tactic would have several advantages apart from actually tackling excess consumer spending. The machinery is already in place: the surcharge would be progressive and not bear on the less well-off; there would be no upward pressure on sterling; exports and investment would be relatively safeguarded; the public sector borrowing requirement would have a temporary respite.

Disadvantages? I can think of none.

Yours faithfully,
M. DONALD BISHOP,
Castle Hill House,
Castle Street,
Totnes, South Devon.

Time for corporate rethink by Lloyd's

From Mr Oliver Carruthers

Sir, You have quite properly reported about the losses of Lloyd's Syndicate 657 and the distress that the loss has caused to the corporate investment trusts New London Capital, HCG and Benfield & Rea, each a publicly quoted company and each reaching for advice as to how the pain might be alleviated.

Long-suffering names at Lloyd's, particularly those who are members of the High Premium Group, have consistently warned of the possible volatile nature of the new corporate investment in Lloyd's. The recently reported 1994 results, the first year when corporate capital was introduced, show that it is not the names who are voicing their complaint about loss in a litigious manner, rather it is the new wave of corporate investor seeking reparation. As names' rights were trimmed, new corporate capital — said to be more discerning and understanding — was introduced.

Lloyd's is very accustomed to thinking again, and now might be a suitable time to reconsider the virtues of supporting that form of capital which has kept and saved it.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER CARRUTHERS,
Executive Secretary,
High Premium Group,
Wheatsheaf House,
Carmelite Street,
EC4.

Rebate rise crucial to pensioning off Serps

From the Group Corporate Affairs Director, Standard Life

Sir, We agree that any serious attempt by the Government to review pension provisions should involve phasing out Serps. The benefits originally intended to be provided through Serps have been drastically reduced in value over the years. They are little understood by the public — what does 20 per cent of lifetime average revalued "middle tier" earnings provide? — but could mislead many into thinking that the Serps benefit will provide the retirement income that they need.

In the short term the Government faces the additional problem that, unless the current level of contracting-out rebate is increased, the best advice to the majority of the six million employees who have left Serps will be to contract back in. (This follows the reduction in likely benefits as a result of the withdrawal of advance corporate tax credit for pension funds).

I assume that the Government will not wish to start its review of pension provision with everyone back in Serps?

Yours faithfully,
T. R. KING,
Group Corporate Affairs Director,
Standard Life House,
30 Lothian Road,
Edinburgh.

Letters to the Business section of *The Times* can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.

I WANT TO MEASURE YOUR CUCUMBERS

commission *n.* as in *European* 1 what we must be at the heart of 2 what we must be at the throat of (see *Eurosceptics*) 3 fee paid to an agent.

brussels *n.* 1 vegetable which children are not prepared to swallow 2 capital of the EU (concept Eurosceptics are not prepared to swallow) 3 location of specialist EU and competition law practice.

lobby *n.* 1 place where MP's throw things *esp.* tantrums, comments etc. 2 endeavour to influence politicians and civil servants to promote a particular viewpoint.

advocacy *n.* 1 sickness caused by excessive consumption of Dutch egg-yolk liqueur 2 skill of pleading a case orally in court 3 support for a cause.

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THE TIMES
CITY DIARY

Yve of new era

YVE NEWBOLD, the former Hanson company secretary turned headhunter, has broken down another staunchly male bastion, appointing the first woman to the board of Dixons, the electrical retailer which enjoys the odd run-in with the Office of Fair Trading. Newbold, who runs Proned, part of Egon Zehnder, spent months tracking down the ideal candidate, and came up trumps with Karen Cook, a merchant banker at Schroders.

With an MBA from Manchester Business School, she becomes a non-executive director next month, succeeding Sir Derek Hornby. Cook, 43, is a mother of six, inviting comparisons with that other career-oriented working mother, Nicola Horlick. Newbold, who is keen to see more women in the boardroom, says Cook wowed the Dixons board. "The great thing about her is that she is in no way, shape or form a token appointment. Today's chairmen are looking for balance on the board, but they are not looking for the token woman any more. Karen really punched her weight with the candidates."

Yve Newbold has broken down another staunchly male bastion

● *ONGOING luggage chaos at Heathrow. A senior banking executive, arriving from Hong Kong with British Airways at the weekend, had to stand around for an hour with his wife and young daughters while their cases made the epic journey from the hold to the luggage carousel. Bags belonging to first class passengers were trundling off last. Elsewhere, a reader calls from the Edinburgh Festival to say he is still waiting for his nine pieces of luggage to catch up with him — three days after arriving in the UK.*

Firm fun

WILD bunch, lawyers. First Biddle & Co, led by the trendsetting Martin Winter, takes over half of Thorpe Park for its annual waterski day, complete with marquees and bouncy castles. Now, word reaches me of raucous merry-making at Olswang, based in London's Covent Garden, and singled out as "the small firm for the 21st century" in this year's newly published Legal 500.

Last week, clients of the firm's property group turned up for a Caribbean evening on the roof, complete with palm trees, raffia sunshades, exotic food and drink, and a steel band. Partners were suitably clad in garish island shirts.

Not to be outdone, the firm's litigation group will be attempting to go one stage better on Thursday with a *Casablanca* evening — complete with Moorish architecture, Rick's Cafe, and a piano player. Round up the usual suspects.

For richer . .

THE penny has yet to drop at EuroDollar, the car rental firm which is set to be taken over by Republic Industries of America, in an agreed £95 million cash deal. It emerges that Steve Westoby, group finance director, had the foresight to register a large chunk of his shares in the name of his wife — a fact that has so far been missed by the wives of the other EuroDollar directors. The fortunate Mrs W holds 500,000 shares, worth £950,000 at the offer price of 190p per share. "It's a tax planning thing," says Ian Mosley, chief executive, adding: "My wife hasn't twigged yet." Dinner tonight should be interesting.

Solar power

TRUE grit at Charterhouse Communications, publisher of *What Investment* and other lofty titles, which slaved on against the odds after losing all power to its offices — just as the magazine was going to print.

As hacks stared in frustration at their blank screens, the advertising team, led by Adam Braggs, sales executive, retreated to the roof with their mobile phones. "We took some chardonnay and a wine cooler, and a few bits of paper," says Braggs, who insists the fact that it was a brilliant sunny day was entirely coincidental. "We actually worked much better on the roof."

● *BIG place, the Bank of England. Maybe too big. A thick wad thuds on to my desk courtesy of Alastair Cunningham, who, according to the blurb, works in the Bank's Conjunctural Assessment and Projections Division. Even the Bank's press office had trouble with this one. They had to look it up in the internal directory, and then consult a dictionary for the definition of conjuncture. Try something more pithy next time — like forecasting.*

JON ASHWORTH

"Looks like Mercury in the ascendant this month"

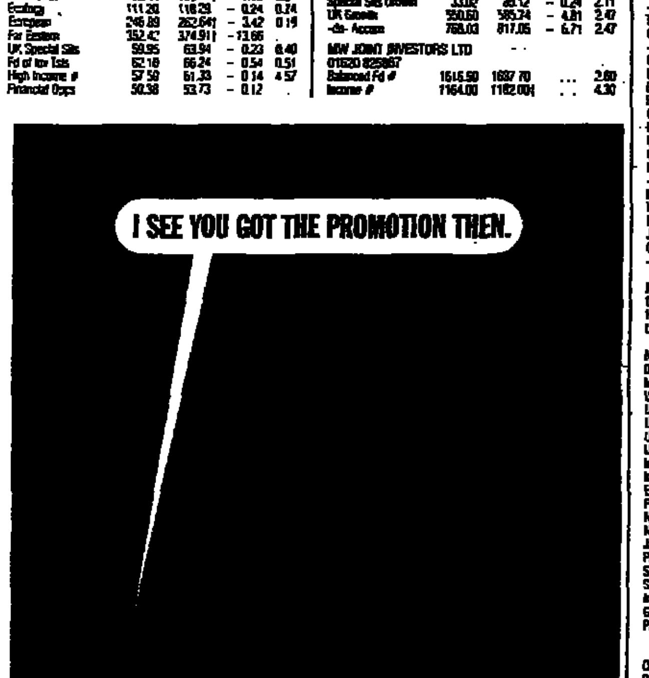
THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
For AIB see Govett (John)				
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	819.60	872.00	- 3.80	2.16
General Inc	679.10	722.50	- 3.10	2.16
UK Growth Acc	566.40	602.60	- 2.90	2.12
UK Growth Inc	362.10	385.30	- 1.90	2.12
Higher Inc Acc #	988.40	1051.50	+ 0.10	4.51
Higher Inc Inc #	518.50	551.70	+ 0.10	4.51
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	221.50	233.80	- 0.70	5.42
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.57	99.80	0.22	5.42
Nth America	436.50	464.40	- 13.70	
Europe	449.80	479.60	- 9.30	.
Bnd Excell	112.90	120.20	- 0.60	2.23
Eur Fndmtls Acc	135.60	144.30	+ 0.10	4.26
Brit Fndmtls Inc	89.43	95.14	+ 0.05	4.25
Global Opps	120.60	128.30	- 2.10	
Balanced Acc	73.51	78.21	- 0.70	2.00
Balanced Inc	67.56	72.29	- 0.64	2.00
Japan Acc	44.78	47.65	1.20	
Pac Basin Acc	422.70	449.70	- 14.00	0.90
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilt & Fixed Int	135.80	144.10	- 0.50	6.37
High Inc Equity	212.10	226.30†	- 1.40	4.28
Worldwide Bond	270.90	287.30†	+ 1.80	3.87
American Growth	527.00	562.90	- 9.90	0.30
Asian Pacific	364.60	389.90	- 4.80	0.35
Assets & Earnings	331.30	354.30	- 1.80	2.64
Euro Capital Acc	243.50	260.40	- 1.40	0.77
Extra Inc	43.53	46.31†	- 0.32	8.49
General	303.10	322.40†	- 1.10	2.85
Global Opps	85.31	90.76	- 0.78	0.44
Japan	104.20	111.40	- 0.40	
Managed Inc	51.61	54.90†	- 0.18	4.10
Mastertrust	194.90	208.40	- 1.30	1.07
US Emerging Cos	219.70	235.00	- 3.90	
Ethical	85.43	90.88	- 0.29	2.01
International	159.70	169.90	1.70	0.51
Dividend & Growth	78.14	83.13†	- 0.51	4.04
Global Health & Sec	77.50	82.74	+ 0.05	2.44
Latin America	103.10	109.70	0.50	0.36
Capital Reserve	149.90	149.90		4.66
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
NAP UK Growth	109.40	116.30†	- 0.40	2.01
Equity Income	153.40	163.10	- 0.40	4.05
Extra Income	290.90	309.30	- 0.70	5.68
Smaller Cos	103.70	110.30	+ 0.40	1.74
International	135.40	144.00	- 2.10	1.31
ABERDEEN UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
American	79.14	82.29	- 2.72	
Emerging Mkts	85.18	88.71†	- 1.24	0.06
European	173.56	180.48	- 3.56	
Extra Income #	56.47	58.37	- 0.16	5.13
Far East Emg Eco	129.96	136.31†	- 2.45	0.40
Fixed Interest #	26.39	27.43†	- 0.05	8.56
Fund Inv Tst #	167.62	175.97†	- 0.77	9.67
Japan	189.68	197.06†	- 4.69	
Latin American	85.80	90.00†	- 2.18	
Pacific	84.74	88.95	- 2.21	0.70
Property	84.14	88.31†	+ 0.09	1.49
UK Emerging Cos	67.31	72.74†	+ 0.09	1.09
UK Growth	66.89	69.65	- 0.33	1.35
New World Port #	97.48	98.38	- 0.82	2.42
Special	84.70	87.56	- 0.37	0.98
Stockman Gilt Inc #	50.61	50.61	- 0.04	6.94
For Abtrust see Aberdeen				
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2329.00	2435.00		
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5868				
Pensl Property #	105.90	112.60		5.04
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	103.87	110.21	+ 0.08	1.90
Income Builder Inc	92.19	98.07	- 0.11	3.58
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
UT dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	345.90	369.70	+ 0.90	2.72
Capital	591.60	632.40	+ 0.80	0.93
Balanced	1003	1073.00	+ 3.00	2.28
Accumulator	1964.00	2099.00	+ 5.00	1.49
Income Trusts				
American Income	81.91	87.210†	1.34	1.86
High Income	566.50	606.10	+ 2.40	3.53
Equity Income	316.00	337.40†	+ 1.30	3.29
High Yield	341.10	364.30	+ 1.30	3.47
Govt Securities	36.08	38.080	- 0.04	5.45
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	285.40	303.80	- 7.30	0.04
European Growth	71.21	76.010	- 1.45	0.05
International	225.80	241.30†	- 4.80	0.09
Japan	190.60	203.70†	- 6.60	
Pacific	443.40	473.90†	- 10.80	
Secs of America	755.40	803.30	- 19.00	0.10
Wwide Asset Val	63.39	67.700	- 1.32	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	784.80	838.90	+ 2.50	1.65
Conv & Gilt	55.85	59.700†	+ 0.09	3.56
Smaller Cos	201.20	215.00	+ 1.80	1.06
2nd Smaller Cos	190.30	203.40	+ 1.80	0.76
Recovery	191.10	204.20	- 0.50	1.18
Met Min & Cdty	158.80	169.20	- 1.40	0.18
Oseas Earnings	512.90	548.20	+ 1.40	0.88
Technology	283.40	302.70†	- 7.80	
UK Special Sits	680.50	720.60	+ 3.80	1.47
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cntrctd Out Pens	136.80	142.10		
Foundn Pers Pens	81.93	85.12		
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	443.30	471.60	- 7.10	
Bond	123.30	129.80†	- 0.30	6.44
3rd Smlr Cos	109.70	116.70	- 0.70	1.89
Conv & Gen #	66.59	70.84	- 0.62	5.39
Europe	368.80	391.60	- 5.70	0.10
Euro Smlr Cos	133.60	142.20	- 2.10	0.31
Income Gwth	393.30	418.40†	+ 3.00	4.16
Japan	341.80	363.00	- 11.00	
Latin American	127.10	135.20†	- 1.00	0.49
Pacific	134.40	143.00	- 2.90	0.54
UK Smlr Cos	60.03	63.66	+ 0.31	1.38
Japan Fd	629.80	647.40	- 14.70	
Mngd Fd	244.30	259.60	- 0.20	2.44
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	458.30	484.70		0.73
Capital Gwth	157.90	167.00		2.50
Wwide Opps	263.20	278.40		0.79
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0191 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Gwth & Inc Inc	510.20	542.80	- 4.20	1.61
European Bd Inc	97.14	100.70†	- 0.10	5.81
Exempt	101.00	107.40	- 0.80	2.18
500	499.90	527.90	+ 1.60	1.97
General	389.80	414.60	- 3.00	1.68
Property	259.80	279.80		5.43
Trustee	273.50	292.40†	- 2.80	1.64
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.60	100.60		6.20
Distribution #	125.40	126.00	- 0.70	5.24
Extra Income #	162.90	173.80	- 1.60	4.21
Gilt & Fxd Int	61.29	63.17	- 0.30	7.40
Income #	682.90	728.40†	- 4.20	4.16
Income Builder #	79.64	84.82	- 0.30	4.70
3rd Income	86.24	91.74†	- 1.00	[illegible]
Growth Trusts - UK				
Cap Sel	173.40	185.40†	- 1.30	1.51
FTSE 100	127.80	135.70	- 1.30	1.84
Leisure	183.70	196.00	- 0.30	1.35
Recovery	601.70	641.60	- 5.10	1.73
Smlr Cos Inc	56.99	60.78†	- 0.36	2.26
Special Sit	500.75	532.70	- 3.60	1.58
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	232.70	247.90	- 4.30	0.08
Euro Gwth Acc	334.00	355.10	- 6.10	0.26
Far East Gwth	197.00	210.40	- 3.60	0.25
Euro Gwth Inc	236.80	250.50†	3.30	0.25
-do- Accum	259.00	274.10†	- 1.90	0.35
Japan	130.00	138.30	- 0.50	
-do- Accum	131.50	133.80	0.50	
Japan Smlr Cos	60.99	65.50	- 0.36	
Worldwide	231.30	246.30†	2.70	0.66
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	179.60	189.60	- 6.20	
Amer Smlr Cos	176.20	185.70	- 5.40	
Eastern	319.30	342.30	- 5.30	0.30
Equity Income #	117.50	125.20†	- 0.76	4.30
European Growth	468.50	499.00	- 8.00	0.20
Europe	473.70	499.00	- 5.40	0.60
German Growth	113.20	120.00	- 1.60	0.50
Global Bond	71.89	75.62†	- 0.73	6.20
Global Growth	177.40	154.40	- 4.10	0.91
Japan Growth	129.10	135.10	3.10	
Japan Smaller	119.30	125.20	- 1.30	
Korea Trust	[illegible]	51.51†	- 0.25	
Portfolio	175.10	186.40	1.76	2.00
-do- Accum	239.90	255.50	- 3.20	2.00
UK Growth	127.73	135.90	0.10	3.00
UK Smaller Cos	104.70	110.00	- 0.20	1.50
Trustee Managed	99.57	105.79	0.60	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
UK Gwth Port Inc	106.50	112.60†		
Special Opps Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]		
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 221 9252				
Balanced Growth	178.32	184.15	4.03	1.05
-do- Accum	206.94	215.56	4.72	1.03
Smaller Cos	170.50	177.61	- 0.67	0.51
Higher Yield #	56.30	62.71	- 0.54	3.79
American Growth	134.79	140.41	- 2.34	
European Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.94	
-do- Accum	210.64	219.41	0.56	
Mixed Fund Inc	62.27	56.53	0.32	1.21
-do- Accum	66.62	69.39	0.29	1.21
Far East Gwth	205.09	214.64	0.28	
Japan Gwth	179.15	186.61	1.76	
UK Gen Inc #	115.72	122.67	6.41	2.65
-do- Accum #	130.72	136.15	0.53	2.95
Cash	54.42	56.69	0.31	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	104.75	108.32	0.53	7.54
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Smll Cos Inc	65.12	65.95	- 0.06	6.37
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5050				
Europe	200.50	213.10	- 0.80	1.64
UK Growth	255.30	270.90†	- 2.50	1.65
UK Income	121.60	122.70	1.20	3.34
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 [illegible]				
Can Gen Dist	239.50	255.00†	2.40	1.34
-do- Income Dist	149.10	158.30	- 0.50	3.96
-do- Accum	[illegible]	421.50	- 2.30	3.16
Gilt & Fxd Int	41.50	42.51†	- 0.08	5.24
Growth Unit	[illegible]	357.00	- 1.70	1.21
-do- Acc	184.20	195.30	0.72	1.47
Intl Growth	226.66	236.00	- 2.90	0.16
North American	322.10	342.10†	- 11.10	0.07
Far East	326.20	345.10†	- 12.90	0.54
UK Smaller Cos	236.50	251.40	+ 0.50	1.11
Europe	115.80	120.20†	- 2.10	0.41
Japanese Growth	42.18	44.72	- 1.34	
High Income	264.71	282.70	- 1.70	3.63
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	278.50	294.70	- 9.30	
European Inc	118.90	125.10†	- 2.20	
Smaller Cos	163.80	110.00	+ 0.50	1.38
Growth	559.10	591.20	- 1.10	1.71
Income & Growth #	540.00	574.90†	- 1.90	4.39
-do- Accum #	345.00	367.50	- 2.50	4.39
Japan & Gen	65.62	69.79	- 2.11	
Portfolio Gwth	1458.00	1519.00†	- 25.70	1.53
-do- Accum	1923.00	1899.00	- 31.00	1.53
Special Sits	159.70	169.40†	+ 0.50	1.76
High Yield	1757.00	1817.00	- 5.00	3.47
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	114.34	121.85†	- 0.77	2.05
American Portfolio	159.23	162.31	- 1.52	0.71
European Portfolio	165.51	176.27	2.40	0.40
High Income	52.45	56.25†	- 0.02	6.71
Japanese Portfolio	60.20	67.04	1.21	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	165.30	178.82	- 4.25	0.67
UK Equity	112.79	130.45	- 0.39	2.77
UK Equity & Bd	64.14	67.98	- 0.05	5.21
UK Smlr Cos	51.55	56.14	+ 0.38	1.72
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	896.31	909.85		3.80
Inv Fd Acc	907.80	921.52		...
Fxd Int Sec Inc	160.94	161.58		6.65
Fxd Int Sec Acc	164.61	165.27		
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	920.73	907.03		3.78
Investment Acc	4219.82	4385.16		
Fixed Int Inc	130.16	130.68		6.60
Fixed Int Acc	253.04	254.06		...
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	91.59	98.49		5.19
Beck Bio-Tech	40.04	43.43	..	..
Acorn Ethical Tst	209.48	219.97	.	0.42
City Fin Assets	87.93	92.33	+ 2.58	1.80
City Fin Intl	100.23	105.25	...	0.06
Franc Hse Cap	345.00	367.02†	+ 11.66	1.62
Barclay Wrld Gth	158.87	168.40		.
Shaw Utilities	74.23	75.69	- 0.23	4.60
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	69.56	73.80	- 0.27	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	99.12	105.45	- 3.46	
Dragon Growth	77.44	82.82	- 3.08	0.35
Equity High Inc	108.80	115.13	+ 0.14	3.34
-do- Accum	161.17	170.55	+ 0.22	3.34
Extra Income Inc	27.77	29.23†	- 0.12	6.53
Extra Income Acc	31.86	33.53	- 0.15	6.53
European Gwth	82.45	87.25	- 1.70	0.04
Evergreen	35.40	37.86	- 0.50	
General Equity	126.97	134.00	- 0.32	2.41
Japan Growth	44.76	47.62	- 1.56	
Pedigree Gwth	74.91	79.26	+ 0.17	1.90
Ped Sml Cos Inc	39.15	41.43	+ 0.18	1.41
-do- Accum	41.93	44.37	+ 0.19	1.41
Retirement Inc #	32.16	34.21	+ 0.02	5.42
Special Sits	52.43	56.38	- 0.04	2.77
UK & Overseas	72.47	76.69	- 1.54	0.45
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 888 000				
Balanced	79.18	82.47†	- 0.58	3.75
Capital	97.95	102.03†	- 0.63	2.16
High Income	53.99	56.23†	- 0.22	6.58
Top 50	70.24	73.16†	- 0.33	2.20
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	213.44	222.36	- 0.55	4.34
Long Gilt	46.88	48.81†	- 0.15	5.74
Monthly Inc Plus	53.94	56.19	- 0.23	7.97
Preference Share	51.06	53.19†	- 0.14	7.33
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	154.26	160.70†	- 0.48	5.57
Managed Fund	87.70	91.36	- 1.02	2.49
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	50.67	52.79	+ 0.20	1.61
-do- Accum	60.60	63.13	+ 0.24	1.61
UK & General	120.57	125.61	+ 1.20	2.24
-do- Accum	159.84	166.52	+ 1.60	2.24
UK Growth	234.96	244.78	- 1.20	1.61
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	266.64	277.78	- 5.31	0.48
Far Eastern Gth	142.86	148.62	- 4.63	0.19
Global Bond	74.56	77.62	- 0.83	6.62
Japan Growth	111.36	116.01	- 3.35	
North Amer Gth	307.44	320.28	- 10.22	
Oriental Growth	91.86	95.70	- 3.06	0.51
Worldwide Growth	85.80	89.38	- 1.99	0.29
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.99	92.99	+ 0.04	5.95
[illegible] Fund	105.47	112.21	- 0.95	1.92
Quilter Fund	178.66	190.06†	- 1.25	1.66
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	38.92	41.63†		3.03
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	197.00	209.60	+ 1.50	1.84
Income	82.50	87.77†	+ 0.67	4.08
European	94.38	100.40	- 1.16	0.10
Recovery	182.40	194.00	- 0.10	2.22
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1159.10	1178.10	.	3.03
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
European Inc	86.54	91.84†	- 2.28	0.34
Fellowship Tst	113.60	120.80	+ 0.30	1.13
Income #	324.50	345.20	- 0.90	3.98
-do- Accum #	882.60	938.90	- 2.50	3.98
Smaller Cos	220.20	234.20†	+ 2.20	0.79
-do- Accum	275.10	292.60	+ 2.70	0.79
Gth Portfolio	112.20	119.30†	- 0.50	1.20
High Inc Port #	95.51	101.60	- 0.30	4.11
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1912.20	1934.60	..	0.53
UK Small Cos	2158.30	2245.90		3.06
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8818				
Disc Inc	235.10	242.40		
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	206.20	219.30	- 2.00	1.47
UK High Inc Inc	217.70	231.50	- 1.80	3.08
-do- Accum	303.30	322.60	- 2.60	3.08
UK Pref & F I Inc	82.01	85.84	- 0.29	5.62
Envrnmntl Opps	122.10	129.80	- 1.00	0.77
UK Smlr Cos	69.99	74.45†	+ 0.31	0.91
Extra Income Inc	51.83	55.13†	- 0.37	6.06
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
Convertibles #	24.31	25.83	+ 0.10	5.42
Enterprise	119.00	126.10	+ 0.10	1.98
Equity Income #	166.60	177.00	+ 0.80	3.62
European	77.01	81.45†	- 0.57	
Financial	72.07	76.57	- 0.09	1.31
Growth & Inc #	337.30	358.40†	+ 2.50	2.44
High Dist #	210.50	223.70	+ 1.10	3.80
International	481.60	511.70†	- 8.20	0.20
Intl Cap Inc	127.10	135.70†	- 1.70	1.99
Latin American	44.43	47.21†	- 0.95	
Mgd Gwth Port	95.11	100.40		4.98
Pacific	93.89	99.76	- 1.64	
Pref High Inc	23.91	25.40†	- 0.04	7.09
Tokyo	203.70	216.40	- 5.50	
UK Smaller Cos	238.10	253.00	- 0.50	1.19
Japan Sml Cos	342.90	363.20	- 3.80	
Nth Amer	547.90	579.50†	- 15.90	0.50
UK Inc & Gth	306.10	326.40	+ 2.00	2.27
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BRI Directr Dtps	125.30	133.44	+ 1.22	0.97
Growth Acc	332.50	353.16	+ [illegible]	0.18
Income	599.62	638.60†	- 13.24	5.00
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	264.30	281.20		0.94
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01256 431 480				
European	114.92	120.97	- 1.88	1.32
Edward Tst	55.73	58.14	- 0.60	0.83
Far Eastern	322.88	339.97†	- 8.33	1.47
High Income	164.56	173.32	+ 0.92	4.29
UK Index Trckng	64.83	68.24†	- 0.16	2.58
Intl Growth	161.55	170.05	- 1.67	0.98
North American	190.39	201.04	- 3.55	1.42
Pelican	176.41	185.69	- 0.44	2.62
Smaller Cos	70.56	74.27	- 0.28	2.57
Special Sits	92.30	97.23	- 0.35	3.17
Tst of Inv Tsts	244.37	257.23†	- 1.25	1.35
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	121.60	129.11	+ 0.22	
Fd of Inv Tsts	59.45	63.08†	- 0.17	0.46
High Income #	40.62	43.28†	- 0.36	11.55
Stan & Gt Opps	53.37	57.39	- 0.15	
Zero Preference	47.73	50.64	+ 0.01	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	113.00	120.20†	- 0.60	2.15
United Charities	330.60	351.60	- 0.80	1.82
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERV'S LTD				
Callfree, Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		6.20
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	26.80	27.79†	- 0.33	5.26
Strategic Inc	29.07	30.39	- 0.11	5.59
Income Funds				
High Income	36.52	37.60†	0.08	4.88
Income Plus	162.20	172.50	- 0.20	3.47
European Income	61.42	65.32	- 1.08	2.08
MoneyBuilder Gwth	36.10	38.37	- 2.16	2.18
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	49.67	52.99	- 3.25	
American	415.50	441.70	- 14.50	
Amer Spec Sits	250.00	266.20	- 9.30	
Japan Smaller Cos	35.18	37.84	- 0.63	
European	287.80	306.10	- 5.25	0.44
European Opps	105.30	112.60	- 2.30	0.50
Global Pro	37.70	42.22	- 0.70	0.30
UK Growth	146.80	155.90	- 0.50	1.25
Growth & Inc	214.60	228.70	- 0.80	2.09
Intl PEP	59.81	63.60	- 1.09	1.08
Japan Spec Sits	81.63	86.44	- 2.51	
Japan	190.60	201.10†	- 6.30	
Managed Intl	450.20	478.30	- 13.70	0.56
MoneyBuilder Plus	77.63	[illegible]	- 5.19	
Recovery	67.52	[illegible]	+ 7.16	1.90
South E Asia	250.20	274.50	- 7.96	0.82
Special Sits	814.50	866.10	+ 4.20	0.57
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	120.45	120.45	+ 0.05	6.20
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 514 2700				
Balanced #	177.00	179.50		1.54
[illegible] Pf Inc #	104.00	104.70	- 0.30	6.37
Cap Pfolio	254.00	270.50	- 5.70	0.02
General Opps	161.20	163.30		3.05
Growth Inc	45.51	45.93	0.27	1.61
Private Portfolio	578.20	585.20		1.06
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 396 Admin/Val 01277 690 390				
Euro Smlr Cos	179.50	194.50	1.20	0.15
High Income	24.32	25.86†		6.70
Japan Smlr Cos	15.63	16.65	- 0.41	
US Smaller Cos	514.20	547.50	- 15.00	
For Foster & Braithwaite see Quilter				
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	99.17	105.20	- 3.50	
-do- Accum	99.17	105.20	- 3.50	
Amer Smlr Cos	770.40	822.00	- 25.50	
-do- Accum	787.10	839.80	- 26.00	
Capital Tst	389.30	415.20	+ 1.90	1.26
-do- Accum	576.30	613.10	+ 2.80	1.26
Cont Smlr Cos	67.27	71.71	1.13	1.03
-do- Accum	72.13	76.95	- 1.27	1.05
Convertible	143.80	153.00†	- 0.20	5.38
-do- Accum	325.70	346.50†	- 0.40	5.36
Emerging Markets	84.52	90.36	- 2.34	0.54
-do- Accum	85.24	91.07	- 2.36	0.54
European	199.80	206.20	- 5.60	0.40
-do- Accum	231.80	247.60	- 5.80	0.45
Extra Income	456.10	485.20†	- 1.90	4.05
-do- Accum	71.40	79.80	- 2.30	4.02
Financial	227.30	241.80	- 5.40	0.94
-do- Accum	243.50	259.00	- 5.80	0.94
Gilt Trust	63.75	65.74	- 0.02	7.04
-do- Accum	102.20	105.30		7.04
Health Fund Inc	235.70	250.70	- 9.20	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	285.70	305.20	- 9.20	.
Income & Growth	267.00	284.00	- 0.50	3.45
-do- Accum	436.50	464.80	- 0.60	3.45
Intl Growth	497.40	529.90	- 14.40	..
-do- Accum	552.30	588.40	- 15.90	
Japan & Gen	164.70	174.80	- 5.20	.
-do- Accum	166.40	176.60	- 5.20	
Monthly Inc #	231.10	245.90†	+ 0.10	4.39
-do- Accum #	238.10	253.30†	+ 0.10	4.36
Managed Port Inc	137.20	144.40	- 1.70	1.24
-do- Accum	150.90	158.80	- 1.90	1.24
Quarterly Income #	62.38	66.75†	- 1.33	5.07
-do- Accum #	74.97	80.24†	- 0.17	5.07
Recovery	361.20	385.30†	- 7.30	
-do- Accum	426.30	455.90†	- 9.70	
UK Growth	76.75	81.65	- 0.28	1.79
-do- Accum	84.81	90.22	- 0.30	1.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	79.88	84.93	- 1.47	.
FP Am Smlr Cos	230.40	245.70	- 2.50	
FP Asian Growth	311.40	332.10	- 7.10	
FP Australian	480.10	512.10†	- 3.30	
FP Equity Dist	542.90	579.00	- 3.97	2.03
-do- Accum	1225.00	1306.00	- 9.00	2.03
FP Euro Gth	378.00	403.20	- 3.50	
-do- Accum	414.70	441.80	- 3.70	
FP Intl Bond	57.20	60.52†	+ 0.15	3.90
FP Intl Gth Dist	45.68	48.72	- 0.44	
-do- Accum	67.09	71.56	- 0.65	
FP Pac Basin Acc	243.20	259.40	- 2.80	
FP Income #	67.03	71.49	- 0.28	4.43
-do- Accum #	243.20	259.40	- 0.90	4.43
FP Jap Smlr Cos	237.20	253.00	+ 2.10	
FP Monthly Dist #	82.80	88.32†	- 0.10	4.78
FP Stlg Deposit	100.50	100.50†		5.28
FP Tokyo	81.16	86.57	+ 0.17	
FP UK Focus	51.16	54.57	- 0.97	1.41
FP UK Growth	239.60	255.50†	- 1.80	1.60
-do- Accum	493.20	526.00	- 3.90	1.60
Stewardship Dist	458.20	488.70	+ 0.60	1.48
-do- Accum	582.90	621.70	+ 0.80	1.48
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	77.06	82.19†	+ 0.11	5.05
-do- Accum #	109.80	117.10	+ 0.10	5.05
N Am Stship Dist	163.90	174.80	- 1.30	
-do- Accum	176.40	188.10	- 1.50	
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	119.10	119.60	- 0.60	2.90
Inst Ethical Ac #	120.30	120.90	- 0.60	2.90
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	151.00	160.60	+ 0.60	0.44
Open Cap Gth Acc	155.10	164.90	+ 1.80	
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	132.60	141.00†	+ 0.50	2.47
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	143.60	152.70	+ 0.50	2.47
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	137.50	146.20†	+ 1.50	3.52
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	150.90	160.50	+ 1.50	3.52
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
CANDA	354.90	378.58	- 4.50	1.53
Cash	49.31	50.05†	+ 0.01	4.55
Growth Portfolio	108.00	114.90	- 1.10	.
Income Portfolio	84.49	89.64†	- 0.75	2.75
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD				
0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	237.70	254.20†	- 2.20	0.58
Dividend	114.00	121.90†	- 1.70	3.69
Intl Gth & Inc	284.70	304.20†	- 3.80	1.30
UK & Gen	56.50	60.43	- 0.80	1.13
Fund of Funds	86.54	92.56	+ 1.15	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	253.30	270.90	- 3.30	0.12
European Gth	889.20	945.58	- 7.40	0.50
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	60.53	64.01	- 0.11	3.73
-do- Accum	69.50	73.51	- 0.12	3.73
High Yield #	51.89	54.83†	- 0.19	7.37
-do- Accum #	60.89	64.35	- 0.22	7.37
Income Inc	224.10	239.70	- 0.80	3.60
-do- Accum	260.30	278.40	- 1.00	3.60
Intl Growth	433.50	460.00	- 3.00	0.27
Intl Income	113.10	119.70	- 1.40	1.98
Japan Growth	451.40	478.40	- 1.20	
Orntl Acc	249.60	257.40	- 3.30	0.12
UK General Inc	219.60	234.70†	- 0.80	1.68
UK General Acc	398.20	425.60	- 1.60	1.68
UK Sm Cos Dis Acc	62.40	66.74	+ 0.33	1.74
UK Spec Sits	117.50	125.70	- 0.40	1.31
US Growth	243.00	256.90	- 4.30	
Wwide Spec Sits	189.40	201.00†	- 2.10	.
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	69.21	74.00†	+ 0.03	1.96
Practical Inv Inc #	140.83	150.62	- 0.90	3.19
-do- Accum #	342.29	366.09	- 2.18	3.19
UK Index	220.05	221.16	- 0.82	2.85
UK Smaller Cos	223.85	239.41	+ 1.68	0.45
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	25.50	26.43†	- 0.11	6.96
High Income	39.75	42.38†	- 0.24	3.85
UK Growth & Inc	186.42	199.11†	- 1.00	2.32
Global Bond	27.98	29.01	- 0.39	4.72
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	57.04	61.00	- 1.27	.
Global Managed	169.83	180.35	- 4.02	1.03
Gold & Intl Res	106.62	114.03†	- 2.15	
Global Utilities	174.89	186.22†	- 2.83	0.61
Overseas Funds				
American	252.85	267.50	- 8.27	0.02
European	170.50	181.10	- 3.39	0.46
Euro Sel Opps	265.31	282.18†	- 5.20	
Amer Emerging	203.79	216.87	- 7.40	
Hong Kong	255.97	274.00	- 6.75	0.68
Japan	213.55	226.56†	- 6.62	.
Pacific Growth	246.24	264.41	- 8.90	..
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	300.44	300.44†	- 2.73	1.57
Long Term Bal	318.21	318.21†	- 2.59	2.59
Med Term Bal	255.42	255.42†	- 0.87	2.74
UK Equity	362.04	362.04	- 1.81	2.15
UK Emerging Cos	179.98	179.98	+ 1.33	2.23
American	428.23	428.23	- 12.10	0.31
Japan	124.92	124.92	- 3.35	.
European	445.12	445.12	- 8.56	0.60
Index Linked Gilt	195.17	195.17	- 0.25	2.65
Fixed Interest	192.45	192.46†	- 0.36	6.97
Amer Emerging	443.56	443.56	- 14.98	
Pacific	230.09	230.09	- 13.66	0.79
Emerging Mkts	160.69	160.69†	- 1.94	0.62
Index Strat Japan	131.02	131.02†	- 3.74	0.21
-do- Pacific Rim	216.95	216.95†	- 7.30	1.04
-do- Cont Europe	240.61	240.61†	- 4.62	1.11
Index Strat USA	256.64	256.64†	- 8.59	1.57
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	142.02	151.08	- 1.37	.
Med Term Bal	122.37	130.18	- 0.44	..
Cash Trust	151.81	151.81†	+ 0.06	6.24
Long Term Bal	143.78	152.96	- 1.24	.
UK Equity	168.82	179.59	- 0.90	
UK Emerging Cos	84.95	90.37	+ 0.67	
American	198.92	211.61	- 5.99	
Japan	59.78	63.59	- 1.73	..
European	185.35	197.17	- 3.81	.
Fixed Interest	99.65	106.01	- 0.30	..
Index Linked Gilt	87.04	92.59	- 0.13	.
Deposit	91.73	97.58	- 0.03	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	175.92	185.18	+ 1.22	0.46
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	782.35	832.29	- 2.45	0.41
-do- Accum	882.05	944.73	- 2.78	0.41
European Inc	213.15	226.29	- 4.48	3.68
Amalgam Inc	189.49	201.59		.
N America Inc	494.11	525.65	- 16.01	
Far East Inc	397.09	422.44	- 17.98	0.36
-do- Accum	412.14	438.45	- 18.66	0.36
UK Dvdd Inc	230.89	245.66	+ 2.55	0.83
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7388				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	136.21	145.15	- 0.87	
Do NAV to Jan 20	129.82	129.82		
UK Equity Safeguard	106.82	114.24	- 0.30	2.47
Do NAV to Sep 19	101.73	101.73		
Cash	951.73	956.49†		5.75
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	351.00	373.50†	- 4.60	1.79
British Growth	81.09	86.72	- 0.40	1.43
UK Small Cos	70.56	75.44	- 1.40	0.49
FTSE 250 Index	95.59	102.22		2.11
Geared UK Index	2250.98	2375.89†	- 29.00	5.25
Income Funds				
UK Equity Inc #	110.24	117.89	- 0.10	4.24
Corp 90	77.50	80.07	- 0.15	
Monthly Inc	41.99	44.78†	- 0.10	8.56
International Funds				
American Gen	306.10	323.90	- 6.40	
American Strat	266.54	285.06	- 0.80	
JG US Index	2322.51	2447.15†		4.30
European Gen	341.60	361.76	- 2.20	0.66
European Strat	147.22	157.45	- 0.10	
Japan Gen	151.50	160.30	- 1.40	
Japan Strat	49.44	52.84		
Asia Pacific	104.66	111.93	- 1.34	.
Pacific Strat	177.19	189.49	- 2.50	
Greater China	335.37	358.68	- 2.90	
Latin America	134.73	144.08	- 2.30	
Intl Growth	188.32	201.42	- 0.32	
Balanced Exempt	158.30	161.96		2.29
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 9668				
European	727.30	777.00	- 2.30	
Gilt & Fixed	137.60	145.90	- 0.20	5.38
Growth Equity	510.80	545.70	- 3.60	0.34
Income Trust	176.60	188.60	- 0.60	3.63
International	242.60	259.10	- 2.10	
Japan Trust	122.40	130.70†	- 1.00	.
Nth American	457.00	488.20	- 6.40	
Pacific	601.10	642.20	- 9.10	0.02
Guardhill	737.60	789.00	- 5.10	0.94
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	96.29	99.91	- 1.00	5.25
Global High Inc	95.02	98.62†	- 1.35	5.29
Corporate Bond	109.09	113.31	- 0.21	6.70
Eqty & Bond Inc	126.51	134.53†	- 0.64	4.79
European Growth	159.63	169.78	- 3.43	
Intl PEP Trust	88.68	92.16	- 2.52	0.30
Equity Inc	163.94	174.31†	+ 0.20	3.47
-do- Accum	248.30	264.07	- 0.29	3.47
Recovery	473.70	503.83	- 0.50	3.21
-do- Accum	570.10	606.20	- 0.60	3.21
Gl Wst High Inc	141.37	143.69	- 0.01	6.85
UK Emerg Cos	286.90	305.03	- 18.30	1.48
UK Smlr Cos	352.30	339.80†	+ 0.50	3.61
Glob Pms Tst	154.92	164.77	- 4.52	3.31
-do- Accum	161.00	171.28	- 4.69	0.91
Inc Stars Tst	99.06	105.22	- 0.17	5.15
Small Cos	96.43	102.51	+ 0.21	1.98
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Balanced Inc	62.86	66.58†	+ 0.41	2.32
Balanced Acc	68.60	72.74	+ 0.45	2.32
Growth	39.34	41.71†	+ 0.21	1.72
Growth Acc	41.36	43.56	+ 0.21	1.72
Income	36.94	39.17	- 0.31	3.97
Income Acc	40.58	43.03	+ 0.34	3.97
Dealing: 01904 61[illegible]0				
Accumulation Tst	32.86	35.61	+ 0.27	2.23
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 350				
High Provider	101.80	105.25†	- 0.80	6.49
[illegible] Fund	290.73	305.50	[illegible]	1.34
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 690 230 Dealing: 01277 690 412				
UK Pref Acc	49.63	52.56	+ 0.03	[illegible]
HENDERSON INVESTORS				
Enquiries: 0645 434949 Dealing: 0645 464646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	392.38	419.51	- 1.48	[illegible]
Best of British	86.86	91.35	0.33	1.54
UK Smaller Cos	151.73	162.15†	+ 0.65	1.10
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	356.09	379.55	- 0.26	3.24
-do- Accum #	1064.18	1133.36	- 2.77	3.24
High Income	395.70	422.72†	- 0.56	[illegible]
Extra Income #	327.73	351.15	- 0.60	6.09
Pref & Bond	51.55	55.25†	- 0.07	7.30
International				
Ethical	135.04	142.28†	- 2.19	1.32
International	385.57	409.48	- 9.33	
Global Bond	54.04	56.96	- 0.64	5.45
Intl Port Tst	114.00	121.94	+ 5.54	
Global Tech	272.16	290.52	- 8.29	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	219.02	224.59	- 7.08	0.08
European	781.22	800.27	[illegible]	[illegible]
European Income #	109.60	115.44†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Euro Smlr Cos	226.64	241.37	[illegible]	0.34
European Value	113.93	121.55	[illegible]	
-do- Accum	127.03	131.36	[illegible]	
Japan Trust	[illegible]	200.59†	[illegible]	.

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan Smlr Cos	167.63	178.27	- 4.08	
Pacific Smlr Cos	242.35	258.19	- 6.77	
North American	416.86	441.86†	- 16.17	.
American Smaller	217.17	231.00	- 7.40	.
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 281 010				
Income & Growth #	177.00	186.40†	- 0.70	4.07
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0181 686 4355				
British	151.08	158.20	- 1.08	1.32
Capital	238.37	249.60†	- 2.71	1.01
Dollar	638.50	669.58	- 22.36	..
Enterprise Gth	479.81	502.42	+ 0.31	0.58
European	347.20	362.56†	- 4.63	.
Far East	316.70	331.63	- 10.80	0.10
Financial	1383.34	1448.53	- 13.92	1.17
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.36	28.45†	- 0.16	6.55
High Yield #	131.74	137.95	- 0.38	4.30
Income & Growth #	199.63	209.04	- 0.62	3.13
International	345.66	361.94†	- 6.62	0.35
Japanese General	187.83	196.68	- 4.80	...
Japan Tech	91.32	95.63	- 2.32	.
Nat Resources	78.58	82.28	- 1.14	0.37
Portfolio	95.18	99.88	- 0.65	1.71
Special Sits	227.76	238.49	+ 0.86	0.33
UK Emerging Cos	125.71	131.63	+ 1.16	1.38
US Smaller Cos	187.87	196.72	- 5.75	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	761.10	812.30†	- 1.50	4.69
UK Growth	847.30	904.30	- 3.90	1.80
High Income #	134.70	143.80†	- 0.30	5.49
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	810.40	856.10	- 30.90	..
European Gwth	195.60	207.90	- 4.10	...
Japan Gwth	275.10	292.50	- 9.50	..
Japan Smlr Cos	27.24	29.07	- 0.46	
Asian	66.91	71.41	- 2.53	0.07
Sing & Malay Gwth	77.08	82.26	- 4.35	..
Hong Kong Gwth	261.20	278.80	- 7.10	0.11
Global Bond	21.20	22.33†	- 0.31	4.70
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	204.70	205.70†	- 0.80	2.80
Triton Index	135.30	139.80	+ 0.80	2.51
THE FOOTSIE FUND	83.37	83.79	- 0.46	2.36
Index Funds-International				
American Index	386.60	388.50	- 12.80	0.69
Eurotrack 100	252.50	253.80	- 5.10	0.92
Japan Index	68.74	69.09	- 2.21	0.13
Tiger Index	178.90	183.00	- 5.90	0.64
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	50.00	52.22†	- 1.26	1.56
General Funds				
Managed Dist	102.30	106.80	- 1.50	0.88
Managed	105.10	110.80	- 1.60	0.88
Rupert Child Fnd	131.50	137.10	- 0.80	2.02
UK Growth	84.16	87.92	- 0.25	1.44
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	99.79	104.20†	- 0.20	5.29
Gilt & Fixed Int #	27.84	28.74†	- 0.13	7.63
UK Inc & Gwth	57.98	60.56	- 0.22	2.77
UK Income #	440.40	459.90	- 1.10	4.14
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	79.87	82.64	- 2.44	
Amer Smlr Cos	195.70	204.00†	- 5.80	
-do- Accum	197.80	206.30†	- 5.70	.
Europe Gth	297.20	309.60†	- 6.30	.
-do- Accum	307.80	320.70†	- 6.40	.
Euro Smaller Cos	52.46	54.62	- 0.90	
French Growth	112.70	116.40	- 2.40	0.03
-do- Accum	121.40	126.00	- 2.60	0.03
H Kong & China	168.70	175.80	- 4.90	0.23
Intl Growth	82.84	86.31	- 1.92	0.35
-do- Accum	84.40	87.93	- 1.96	0.35
Japan Gth	27.20	28.35	- 0.81	.
-do- Accum	27.20	28.35	- 0.81	
Japan Smaller Cos	38.46	39.70	- 0.58	.
Glob Emg Mkts	116.70	121.90†	- 3.10	
-do- Accum	117.50	122.70†	- 3.10	
SE Asia	382.30	399.30	- 14.50	..
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	50.23	51.77	- 0.68	6.48
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690446				
UK Income #	129.00	137.20	- 1.30	2.97
UK Growth	133.90	142.40	- 1.70	1.48
Hy 5 Europe	120.00	126.10	- 0.30	1.77
Slater Gwth	203.30	216.90	+ 1.10	0.93
New Japan	79.09	83.52	- 1.13	
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	208.70	222.00†	- 3.90	.
Income #	249.30	265.29†	+ 1.49	3.97
UK Growth	94.31	100.32†	+ 0.22	1.84
Intl Growth	102.44	108.97†	- 1.63	0.51
Ecology	111.20	118.29	- 0.24	0.74
European	246.89	262.64†	- 3.42	0.19
Far Eastern	352.42	374.91†	- 13.66	.
UK Special Sits	59.95	63.94	- 0.23	0.40
Fd of Inv Tsts	62.18	66.24	- 0.54	0.51
High Income #	57.50	61.33	- 0.14	4.57
Financial Opps	50.38	53.73	- 0.12	.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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	105.10	108.60	- 0.50	6.62
Euro Pfts Inc	124.60	132.60†	- 0.40	2.75
-do- Accum	124.90	132.30†	- 0.40	2.75
Gilt Yield	123.10	129.80	.	6.23
Global Income	264.30	285.40†	- 1.30	2.81
High Yield	196.50	208.00†	+ 1.20	4.48
-do- Accum	665.80	708.30†	+ 4.00	4.48
Money Market	100.80	100.80†	+ 0.03	6.24
Smlr Cos Inc	63.49	67.54†	+ 0.17	3.82
Investment Co Ex Acc	1135.00	1151.00	+ 6.00	3.40
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	196.10	208.60	- 4.90	
Asian Growth	333.50	354.80	- 9.80	
-do- Accum	391.90	416.90	- 11.50	
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	184.50	188.10†		3.62
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Inc #	100.60	103.70†	- 0.10	6.66
M & S Inv Pfolio	207.10	213.50†	- 0.10	2.06
-do- Accum	250.90	258.70†	- 0.10	2.06
UK Sel Pfolio	187.90	195.70	+ 1.60	2.09
-do- Accum	233.60	240.00	+ 2.00	2.09
UK 100 Cos	150.50	150.50	+ 1.30	2.19
-do- Accum	154.20	154.20	+ 1.20	2.19
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	75.19	79.99	...	3.09
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				

Rodney Hobson assesses the response to the Green Paper on a '£20 billion scandal'

The chase is on after late payers

THE Government's Green Paper on late payments has produced a *mixed response from* small business organisations. The Forum of Private Business has stepped up its *campaign for statutory* interest: the Federation of Small Businesses has promised to help to make the *proposals work; the* Small Business Bureau will ask for the timetable to be slowed down.

Barbara Roche, the Small Firms Minister, has proposed that small businesses should be able to claim *statutory interest against all large* firms, including public sector organisations, as soon as legislation is on the statute book.

After two years small firms would be able to claim against each other, but it would be a further two years before large firms were able to claim against small ones. Companies will not be allowed to put a clause in their contracts overruling the legal provisions.

The forum welcomed moves to solve what it called the UK's £20 billion late payment scandal.

Nick Goulding, head of policy, said: "This is a victory for the grassroots business owners who have traditionally been the victims of late payment simply because *there was no effective redress* available to them.

"Framed properly, we believe *that a statutory right to interest* could change the late payment culture without most businesses even knowing of its existence. Late payers would never know which or how many suppliers might collect interest or when. This would make late payment a very dangerous and costly policy."

The forum is concerned that the proposed level of interest payments, 4 per cent over base rates, might be too low to act as a meaningful deterrent.

The federation is also likely to ask Mrs Roche to tinker with her proposals. Its trade and industry *committee is considering its* response to the Green Paper. David Hands, at the federation's parliamentary office, said: "Interest on late payements was not our first choice for dealing with the problem, but it is going to be introduced and we have got to welcome it and make it work. We feel it will not in itself change the culture of late payment. We will monitor how the legislation works in the first couple of years."

John May, Small Business Bureau policy co-ordinator, also feels that the legislation should be reviewed after the first two years. *He fears that large businesses will* have the computer systems to send out demands, while small ones will *be unable to catch up with paper*work until the end of the month.

He said: "Research done so far *does not convince us. We would* prefer bigger businesses to say what their payment terms are and to put in their annual reports what their record is."

He also fears that small businesses will find their workload increased as they send out extra invoices.

He added: "Why don't we treat the first two years as a pilot? We have got to try to educate small businesses to be more efficient in sending invoices out."

The bureau welcomes the ban on contracting out of obligations to pay interest, which, he says, "indi*cates to large businesses that the* Government is serious in tackling the delay in payments".

He adds: "The Green Paper is good as a discussion document and it shows the Government is determined to help the small business sector, but I'm worried that at the end of the day it may only help large businesses. Small businesses put their bills into the computer at the end of the month and do not pay until the end of the following month, so they will often take longer than 30 days to pay their suppliers. Legislation might double or treble the accountancy work of *small businesses. It is that kind of* time that small business does not have."

DARREN FLETCHER/SWNS

Keith Wiffen's experience puts him in favour of the statutory right to interest on late payments

Case of payment, one year late, by stuffed envelope

A SWINDON businessman has written to Barbara Roche, the *Small Firms Minister, telling her* the story of how he pursued a late payment for more than a year.

The chase ended the day before a court hearing, when he drove 40 miles to collect several hundred pounds stuffed into an envelope.

Keith Wiffen set up as an independent energy consultant after taking early retirement from one of the privatised electricity companies. He advises businesses on energy cost savings, taking a flat fee or a percentage of the savings as his reward.

In June last year he billed a client for £500, including VAT, for *advice given and listing savings* that the client would make year after year. Two letters, follow-up telephone calls and a visit to the client's office over the next few *months brought no response,* Mr Wiffen said. By April he resorted reluctantly to the county court, *claiming £900 including interest* and expenses.

The case was due for hearing on *July 23.* The previous morning, Mr Wiffen received a telephone call offering to settle the original invoice. Mr Wiffen, concerned that a cheque might not arrive before the court hearing and could bounce, suggested a compromise figure, higher than the original invoice, but lower than the court claim to be paid in cash.

He said: "I, know from experi*ence there has to be a compromise.* We all have to give a bit. I jumped into my car, drove almost 40 miles and, to my delight, was handed a plain brown envelope bulging *with notes and coins.* Thank goodness the rest of the businesses I deal with do pay, sometimes with *just a little prodding."*

His view of the statutory right to interest on late payment is that if a company knew it was going to be punished, just that thought alone might be enough to get it to pay within a reasonable time.

His letter to Mrs Roche concludes: "The annoying part of this saga is that the defendant's company has, I guess, assets running into several million pounds with, no doubt, a six-figure annual profit. I look forward to my *recurring nightmares and those of* other small businesses coming to an end at long last."

Statutory right to interest could backfire on firms

ARGUMENTS persist that a statutory right to interest on *late* payments will backfire on small businesses. Two new surveys have restated the warning.

Office World, in its quarterly small business survey, claims that only 37 per cent of small business owners would enforce their right to interest, while 38 *per* cent said they would not. A quarter are undecided.

Simon Fox, managing director, said: "Previous surveys have consistently put late-payment legislation at the top of most small business owners' agenda yet their reaction to the current plan is less than enthusiastic. There are various reasons why a statutory right to charge interest may not be a *sufficient deterrent to late payment.* Some small firms may fear that implementing it will upset customers and they will lose business. Others may see the cost, in time and administration, exceeding the value of interest charged."

A study of the sales ledgers of more than 900,000 businesses has shown that large organisations are by far the slowest to pay bills, Experian, the business information company formerly known as CCN, says.

However, a new law giving the right to charge interest on accounts paid late would not help small businesses, the *study* concluded.

This evidence against the proposed legislation will be put to the Government.

A small enterprise would be reluctant to demand interest from a late-paying large company that gives it a big slice of its business for fear of losing the custom, said Peter Brooker, an Experian director.

Large companies also have the muscle to negotiate long payment periods but are able to impose 30-day terms on small operators.

The analysis revealed that on average large companies take more than 72 days to settle, medium-sized companies nearly 67 days, and small businesses about 53 days.

Mr Brooker pointed out that many large companies pay late because of their bureaucracy. Purchasing and paying are usually *handled* by different people, whereas the same employee is likely to be responsible for both in a small operation.

Large companies often pay in the month after receiving an invoice — so Mr Brooker *recommended* small businesses to send out bills to arrive before the end of the month.

His main advice, however, was to check a potential customer's creditworthiness and payment record and refuse to supply goods on credit if there was a problem. Ray Ruffels, managing director of Equifax Business Solutions, the computer group, takes a similar line. He said: "A smaller business that faces financial collapse if a big customer delays payment is still *wary of damaging* its business relationship with such an important source of income. Imposing *interest on the overdue* debt does not solve this dilemma. Only if charging interest were a universal process *would* every *supplier* be competing on a level platform. There is also the very real danger of smaller businesses being *squeezed* between suppliers and customers."

Mr Ruffels fears that disputes will arise over when, or even whether, invoices were received.

However, he conceded: "The new legislation is geared to supporting the principle of fairness within business practice. Therefore, if nothing else, the Bill will encourage big companies to look more closely *at their* relationship with creditors and for this reason should be welcomed."

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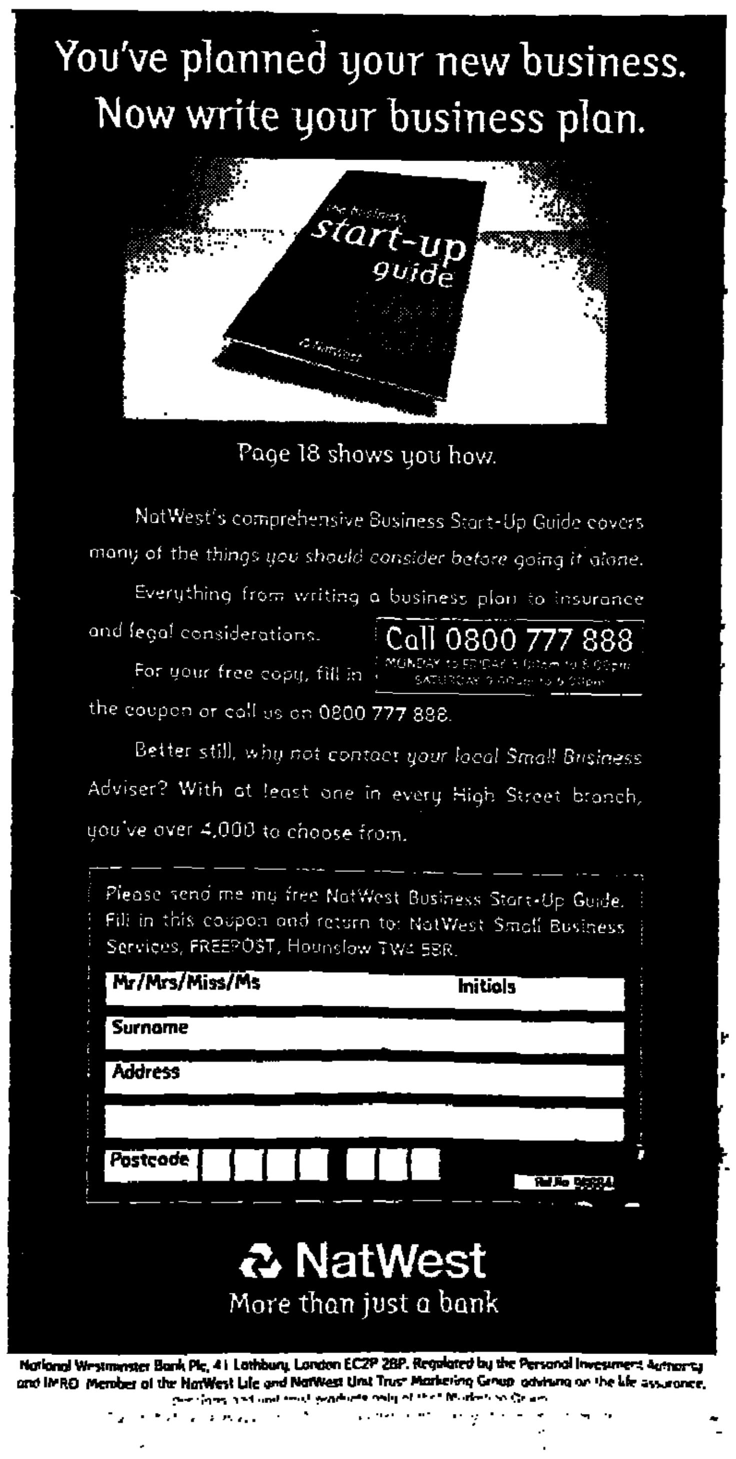
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The successful candidate will combine around three years' PQE with a strong, tenacious personality - *confident in their own* abilities but not reluctant to use the professional resources and team knowledge available.

To discuss this post in complete confidence, please contact Alison Wright at Daniels Bates Legal, 17 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4QH.
Tel: 0171 404 4646.
Fax: 0171 831 7969.
(Evenings/weekends: 01438 236 328).

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Please apply in writing, enclosing CV and S.A.E. to Mr Peter Harrison, 24a St John Street, Manchester M3 4DF
Tel: 0161 833 9628

WEST LONDON - Property Investment Company require Commercial Property Solicitor (3-7 yrs PQE) with extensive landlord & Tenant knowledge. Please apply in writing with CV to Simon Beresford-Webb, Glade House, 52 Carter Lane, London EC4 5EA (Agy)

PROPERTY - NEWBURY - Well regarded general practice urgently seeks junior Sol for residential/commercial and Housing Association work. Call Macdonald & Company. (Agy) Tel 01747 828337 Fax 01747 828047

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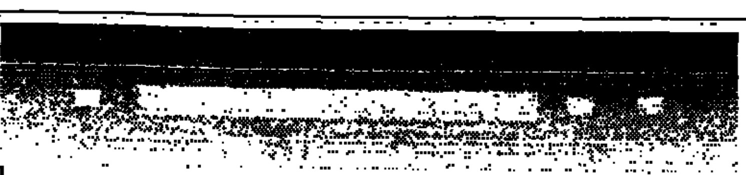

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Profound is the world's most comprehensive database of global business information, created and distributed by M.A.I.D plc.

We are looking for a dedicated legal professional who is highly competent *in drafting, negotiating and vetting licence agreements.* You will work in a challenging entrepreneurial and fast moving environment. This is a demanding role and requires exceptional organisational and interpersonal skills and the ability to work under pressure, often to *tight deadlines.*

You will be a qualified lawyer of 1 – 3 years experience with genuine credibility, presence and strong commercial sense. Sound legal training together with word processing skills are essential. Self sufficient, flexible and resourceful you will be able to utilise your skills to work as an integral member of M.A.I.D's Business Affairs Team.

Please forward your cv (including current salary details) together with a short letter indicating why specifically you would like to work for M.A.I.D to: The Personnel Officer, M.A.I.D plc, The Communications Building, 48 Leicester Square, London WC2H 7DB. http://www.maid.com

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You will be a qualified member of a recognised and respected professional law affiliation and possess at least three to five *years of solid corporate/commercial legal* experience, preferably in an aviation context. This is a unique opportunity to broaden your professional horizon and take on a role with wide ranging responsibilities.

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Solicitor

Commercial

Tarmac Heavy Building Materials UK Limited is one of the UK's leading producers of minerals and related added value products, with substantial minerals and construction products *businesses* overseas, in Europe and the Middle and Far East. We require a corporate and commercial solicitor of 1-3 years' qualification to work as part of our in-house legal team based in the West Midlands.

You will have involvement in a wide range of corporate and commercial work including business acquisitions, joint ventures, supply and distribution agreements, competition law, supervision of *litigation* and some corporate and commercial matters with a foreign element. A command of French, Czech or other languages would be useful and an aptitude for languages is important. Some travel may be required.

A commercial attitude is essential, as is the ability to work under pressure, often to tight deadlines.

We offer a competitive salary, company car and other benefits expected from a major company.

Please apply with full CV including details of current salary to:

Mr J R Stirk - MA Cantab, Company Secretary & Solicitor,
Tarmac Heavy Building Materials UK Ltd,
Millfields Road, Ettingshall,
Wolverhampton WV4 6JP.

Tarmac

Legal Assistant to Director of Legal Affairs

FOX KIDS network

Fox Kids Europe Limited is a subsidiary of Fox Kids Worldwide Inc, owner of Fox Kids Networks (USA), the leading kids network in America, and Saban Entertainment, one of the largest producer of children's television programming in the world. The company is currently in the process of launching branded children's television satellite and cable channels throughout Europe.

We are currently looking for a Legal Assistant within our Legal Affairs Department, to assist in a wide variety of contractual, regulatory and other legal issues relevant to the launch and operation of channels in Europe. Experience in Broadcasting is preferable but not essential. The suitable candidate will have strong drafting, negotiation and interpersonal skills, will be capable of dealing with pressure and a heavy workload and will be either of the following:

- A paralegal with some commercial or contractual experience.
- A *qualified Solicitor/Barrister*, newly qualified or with one year's PQE.

The duties would initially involve some PA work for the Legal Director.
Interested candidates should forward a detailed Curriculum Vitae, including information on present salary to the following address: Alice Carroll, Fox Kids Europe, 1 Northumberland Avenue, Trafalgar Square, London, WC2N 5BW

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

AUGUST - NEW

PROPERTY LITIGATION *To £40,000*
Excellent opportunity for a property litigation lawyer with six months to two years pqe to work with a strong team for very well known clients. You'll be proactive and academically bright and keen to make your mark at this firm which has a strong reputation in this area. **Ref: T12518**

UNUSUAL CORPORATE OPP. *To £Competitive*
If you think all company commercial positions for 2-5 years qualified lawyers are the same, think again. This firm which offers you the opportunity to work in a small team in modern offices and can offer a lawyer the opportunity to be entrepreneurial and creative. **Ref: T40604**

EMPLOYMENT *To £65,000*
One of the truly great top 10 City practices now seeks an additional senior member of its employment team. You will be 3-6 years' qualified and have excellent exposure to a range of contentious and non-contentious employment matters. An ideal opportunity for a hungry prospective lawyer with a flair for practice development. **Ref: T1156**

US SECURITIES *Moscow* *To $200,000*
This top 10 New York practice with a reputation in capital markets and M&A now seeks a high calibre US securities expert with a minimum of three years' experience to join its close knit Moscow practice. Undertaking a range of CIS related work much of it with an investment related flavour. **Ref: T42072**

CORPORATE *US Firm* *To $200,000*
This white shoe US practice with a World-wide reputation in corporate finance matters now seeks its first UK qualified corporate practitioner for its London office. You will hail from one of the top 10 City practices, be a self starter and have a minimum of 3 years pqe. **Ref: T20427**

INSOLVENCY *To £Partnership*
This leading mid-sized City practice is forward planning for the next recession and is determined to build a powerful insolvency team. It now seeks a partner designate/partner to drive forward this practice area. The firm is already strong in corporate, banking and litigation. **Ref: T41998**

EC *To £70,000*
Major international firm seeks to recruit a lawyer with 4-6 years' pqe. You will have gained substantial EU/competition law experience either in London or Brussels. Outstanding partnership prospects. **Ref: T28037**

PENSIONS - JUNIOR *To £38,000*
Leading medium-sized commercial firm seeks pensions lawyer. You will be 0-18 months' qualified (including September 1997 qualifiers) seeking to make your mark in an established practice which can offer excellent work and tremendous opportunity. **Ref: T42091**

CONSTRUCTION *To £50,000*
This leading London firm has an excellent reputation for construction law. The firm is seeking solicitors with 0-4 years' pqe to deal with the full range of non-contentious construction work. Excellent opportunity for a junior to gain superb training, and for a more senior solicitor to thrive with autonomy. **Ref: T29569**

TOP 20 CITY *To £48,000*
Pensions remains an exciting area to be involved in, as recognised by this fantastic opportunity offered by this top 20 firm. If you have up to three years pqe and are keen to work on a wide range of pensions matters as well as gain great remuneration and rapid promotion, look no further. **Ref: T30175**

COMMERCIAL/INSURANCE *To £50,000*
Medium-sized City firm seeks company/commercial lawyer to work in highly active insurance sector. Broad range of international work to include company/commercial, banking and regulatory issues, working in future major practice area. **Ref: T41950**

BANKING *To £70,000*
Major London firm has outstanding opportunities for two banking lawyers. You will work with one of the best known partner names in this field dealing with the full range of banking/finance work. Tremendous variety and excellent prospects for lawyers with 0-5 years' pqe. **Ref: T41672**

IN-HOUSE BANKING *To £40,000*
Young banking lawyers - don't miss this rare and very well-rewarded opportunity to help establish a legal function in the London branch of a major German bank. You will have 0-2 years' banking experience, especially in derivatives, and will ideally speak German or another European language. **Ref: T41707**

CO/CO *£Highly Competitive*
This is an excellent opportunity for someone who wants a variety of work together with responsibility and a good quality of life. If you have 0-9 years experience which includes a strong training (whether a UK or antipodean) consider the opportunity to work here. **Ref: T29612**

QD
QUARRY DOUGALL

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact ***Adrian Fox, Sarah David*** *or* ***Greg Abrahams*** *(all qualified lawyers) on* ***0171-405 6062*** *(0171-286 1441 or 0181-789 7704 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.*

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Shipping Litigators

Hong Kong - £Excellent

Holman Fenwick & Willan is one of the City's foremost international maritime law firms with an outstanding reputation for shipping, insurance and commercial litigation.

As part of the firm's continued strategy for growth, they now seek to recruit additional lawyers to augment the shipping team in their thriving Hong Kong office.

In addition to a strong academic record, the ideal candidates will have outgoing personalities together with the ability to work imaginatively and independently within their teams. Excellent communication skills are essential as these roles demand considerable client contact.

Applications should be received by 30th August as the positions are for start dates in November.

LIPSON LLOYD JONES

To be considered for these positions, contact **Marian Lloyd-Jones** or **Jon Garrett** in confidence.

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Commercial Litigation

c 2 years PQE **£ New York rates**

Debevoise & Plimpton is one of the leading US international law firms. With more than 350 lawyers worldwide and offices in New York, Washington DC, Paris, London, Hong Kong and Budapest, it acts for some of the world's largest corporations and financial institutions.

Although global in orientation, Debevoise & Plimpton operates as a single firm and its ethos is to provide clients with a high quality legal service on a cost effective basis. The firm's commercial litigation and arbitration practice is diverse and sophisticated with a particular focus on handling complex international matters. Litigation is closely co-ordinated amongst the firm's international offices to meet clients' needs.

Arthur Marriott QC has recently joined the London office, demonstrating the firm's overall strategic commitment to its international dispute resolution practice. The firm intends to build on this strategic development through the recruitment of a commercial litigator whose prerequisite attributes will include:

- First rate academics with at least a 2:1 degree from a blue-chip university.
- At least 18 months High Court commercial litigation experience gained in a top ten City firm.
- Natural flair for lateral thinking and the commercial awareness necessary to see the 'big picture'.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.

In addition to an outstanding remuneration package, this opportunity will offer you a broad spectrum of dispute resolution work. Working closely alongside English and American partners, you will be prepared to undertake international travel. Successful performance will be rewarded with excellent prospects.

For more information in complete confidence, please contact Nicky Russell on 0171 269 2241 or write to her enclosing your CV at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LN.

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You will be expected to direct the provision of legal services on a global basis, with responsibility for the management of external legal resources where appropriate. The role will combine legal, strategic and management skills.

Your experience will have been gained either at a bank or in private practice. Equally important will be the ability to demonstrate maturity and a pragmatic commercial approach in what will be a demanding role.

To make an application, in complete confidence, please call **Joe Macrae** or **Lisa Hicks** at **ZMB Industry** on **0171-523 3838** (0171-642 5237 evenings/weekends) or write to us at 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-247 5174. **E-mail lisa@zmb.co.uk**

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IN-HOUSE CONSTRUCTION OPPORTUNITIES

WEST MIDLANDS

Tarmac

Tarmac Construction Services is the UK's largest building and civil engineering contractor with an annual turnover exceeding £1.5 billion. The Business Groups within Construction Services provide specific expertise in all aspects of construction work.

In line with their progress, they are now looking for several talented, dynamic lawyers with at least 2 to 3 years' commercial experience in the construction sector. Opportunities exist for dealing with main and sub contract legal work, handling major UK contracts principally within the areas of building, mechanical & electrical services and other aspects of construction work.

You will therefore need experience of drafting, negotiating and vetting various construction contracts and other ancillary documentation. You will also be adept at dealing with conditions of appointment, bonds & guarantees and joint venture agreements. Further responsibilities will include giving general legal advice in the construction field and will also involve the management of construction litigation.

You will receive a competitive salary and benefits package, plus the opportunity to build up your skills and responsibilities.

Please contact David Bennett at In-House Legal, Grosvenor House, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham B2 5RS.
Tel: 0121 643 1895.
Fax: 0121 633 0862.
Evenings/weekends: 0121 428 1150.
E-mail: hwgroup@hwgroup.co.uk

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Property Investment Company

Commercial Property Lawyer

Central London **£ Excellent + Benefits**

Our client is a leading UK property investment company with an excellent portfolio of assets, geographically concentrated in the UK's most exciting property market, London. Publicly listed since 1994, its property portfolio was recently valued in excess of £360 million. It has a significant interest in an AIM listed joint venture company which is strategically expanding its range of property investments in Central Paris.

Due to this continuing growth, the group is now looking for a high calibre commercial property solicitor. Reporting to the Board, you will work closely with the close-knit head office team providing legal and strategic advice on the full range of its property and corporate activities. You will also work closely with the French business and will have the opportunity to travel to Paris. Your profile:

- A qualified commercial property solicitor with 2-3 years' pqe.
- A proactive, hands-on and commercial approach with an outgoing personality.
- Excellent interpersonal, drafting and communication skills.
- Experience of working in France and/or *linguistic ability* would be an advantage.

This is a rare opportunity for a young property lawyer to join a dynamic, acquisitive property investment company. Interested candidates should contact Daniel Richards on 0171 269 2234 or write to him at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LN, or fax 0171 831 6662.

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CORPORATE LAWYER

An international law firm, headquartered in Chicago, with an expanding CIS Group practice requires a US qualified lawyer for its London office. Candidates will have general corporate practice with experience of joint ventures, be three years qualified or more with Russian language skills.

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FISHER F. DEMPSEY & COMPANY [illegible] Associate Solicitor for its Grand Turk office. [illegible] 22nd August 1997.

COMMERCIAL - BATH Successful practice seeks young commercial lawyers for expanding team. 3 positions NQ to 3 years. Call Macdonald & Company (Agy) Tel: 01747 828837 Fax 01747 828047.

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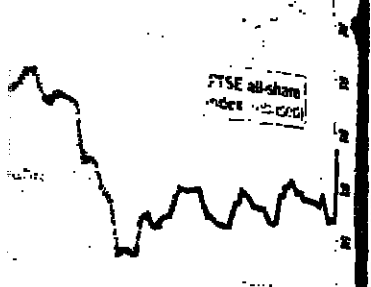

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BRITISH FUNDS

1997 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
101	100	Treas 8¾% 1997	100	-	8.75	7.24
106	101	Exch 15% 1997	101	-	14.76	6.84
103	101	Exch 9¾% 1998	101	-	9.64	6.97
101	100	Treas 7¼% 1998	100	-	7.24	7.02
110	105	Treas 14% 1998-01	105		13.32	7.05
114	108	Treas 15½% 1998	108	-	14.23	7.05
108	105	Exch 12% 1998	105	-	11.34	7.06
105	102	Treas 9½% 1999	103	-	9.21	7.08
111	107	Exch 12¼% 1999	107	-	11.37	7.08
109	105	Treas 10½% 1999	105	-	9.95	7.08
99	98	Treas 6% 1999	98	-	6.11	6.99
110	106	Conv 10¼% 1999	106	-	9.62	7.08
106	104	Conv 9% 2000	104	-	8.63	7.10
104	102	Treas 8% 2000	102	-	7.79	7.08
104	102	Treas 8½% 2000	103	-	8.25	7.12
119	115	Treas 13% 2000	115	-	11.29	7.14
112	108	Treas 10% 2001	108	-	9.20	7.16
101	98	Treas 7% 2001	99	-	7.03	7.08
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
101	97	Treas 7% 2002	99	-	7.01	7.04
122	109	Treas 9¾% 2002	110	-	8.80	7.15
105	102	Treas 8% 2003	104	-	7.68	7.10
118	111	Treas 10% 2003	113	-	8.79	7.14
118	113	Treas 11½% 2001-04	113	-	10.13	7.18
87	82	Fund 3½% 1999-04	86	-	4.06	5.95
114	109	Conv 9½% 2004	113	..	8.40	7.13
99	94	Treas 6¾% 2004	98		6.88	7.20
109	104	Treas 8½% 2005	108	.	7.84	7.12
112	110	Conv 9½% 2005	113		8.36	7.15
129	124	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126	-	9.89	7.19
103	98	Treas 7½% 2006	102	..	7.32	7.22
107	99	Treas 7¾% 2006	103		7.46	7.15
104	100	Treas 8% 2002-06	103	-	7.76	7.26
123	115	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120	-	9.77	7.17
111	105	Treas 8½% 2007	109		7.77	7.15
102	95	Treas 7¼% 2007	101	.	7.17	7.09
116	108	Treas 9% 2008	114		7.87	7.12
106	101	Treas 8% 2009	107	.	7.48	7.13
LONGS (over 15 years)						
96	85	Treas 6¼% 2010	92	-	6.77	7.15
118	109	Conv 9% 2011	116	.	7.75	7.15
119	109	Treas 9% 2012	116		7.71	7.16
89	80	Treas 5½% 2008-12	87	+	6.31	6.90
110	100	Treas 8% 2013	108		7.40	7.13
107	98	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	105	+	7.37	7.17
111	101	Treas 8% 2015	109		7.32	7.08
125	103	Treas 8¾% 2017	117		7.46	7.11
113	101	Tr 8% 2021	110	+	7.21	7.04
UNDATED						
50	43	War Ln 3½%	49	..	7.11	.
35	30	Treas 2½%	34	+	7.26	
55	49	Consols 4%	53	-	7.42	..
INDEX-LINKED *on projected inflation of*					10%	5%
114	113	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	114		...	2.47
187	184	Treas IL 2½% 2001	187	+	3.04	3.68
184	180	Treas IL 2½% 2003	183	+	3.20	3.66
120	117	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	118	+	3.26	3.65
195	190	Treas IL 2% 2006	193	+	3.32	3.63
176	170	Treas IL 2½% 2009	174	+	3.35	3.58
183	176	Treas IL 2½% 2011	180	+	3.38	3.59
150	144	Treas IL 2½% 2013	149	+	3.40	3.59
161	153	Treas IL 2½% 2016	158	.	3.41	3.58
155	147	Treas IL 2½% 2020	153	+	3.46	3.60
129	122	Treas IL 2½% 2024	127	+	3.47	3.60
128	119	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	124	+	3.46	3.59

WATER

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
811	577½	Anglian	780½	- 4	5.5	10.4
275	203	East Surrey	274		4.9	11.1
881½	740	Hyder	837½		6.6	7.1
111½	101½	Hyder Cm Pf	106	+ ½	9.2	
640	532½	Mid Kent Hldgs	585		6.4	10.9
914½	663	Severn Trent	825	- ½	5.8	9.2
2920	2755	South Staffs	2830	..	3.9	12.8
825	596½	South West	782½	+ 1½	5.9	9.6
818½	593½	Thames	793½	+ 11	5.4	9.3
789	605½	Utd Utilities	711	+ 10	6.5	12.8
501	344½	Wessex	473½	+ 6½	4.8	9.1
465½	325	Yorkshire	435	+ 1	5.3	9.2

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
115½	84½	Abacus Recruit	109½		0.6	21.2
215	170	Cafe Inns▼	184		2.0	17.3
230	153½	Country Gdns	178½		1.1	18.5
262½	180	Duncan Hldgs	217½		2.8	21.0
51½	33½	Freepages	36½	+ ¼		
98½	75	Megalomedia†	89½		0.3	
65	22½	Memory Corp	41½	+ 6		
580	280	Pittan Rad	320	- 4		
1265	945	Ramco Egy	1165	+ 5	0.1	
780	610½	Southern News	748	+ 1	3.0	24.3
72½	65½	Southern Vectis	67½		3.9	
510	410	Sporty Fr Inns	493	- 1	0.7	
60½	17½	Trocadero†	24	+ ½		...

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

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● GENOCIDE HORROR 35
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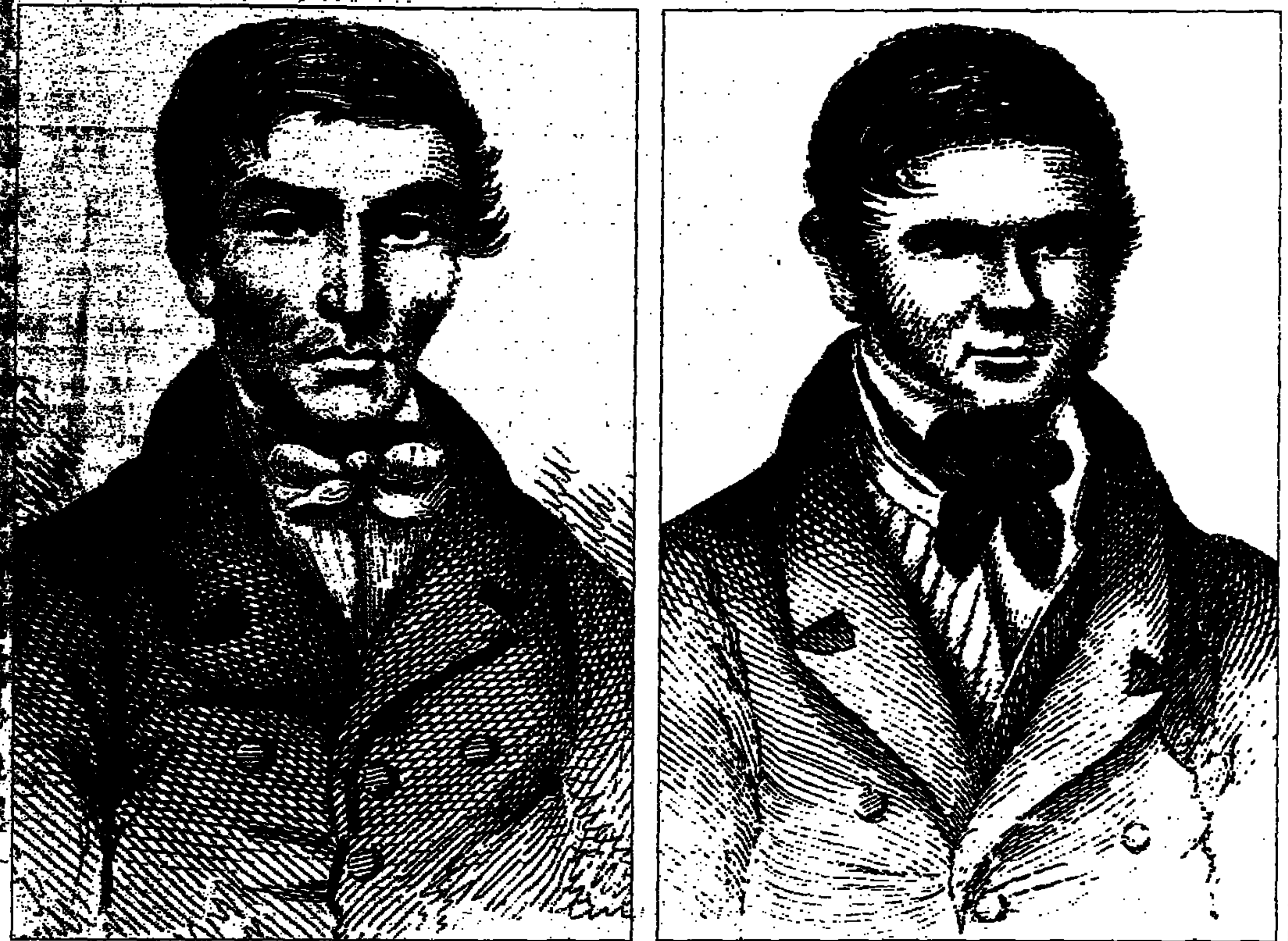

The notorious bodysnatchers Burke and Hare operated in Edinburgh: Burke was hanged in 1829 for a series of murders, but Hare gave King's evidence

Drawn and hung — or decently quartered?

An artist has been charged with stealing body parts. But the laws surrounding disposal of human remains are vague, says **Stephen White**

The prosecution of Anthony-Noel Kelly, a sculptor, later this month for allegedly *stealing body parts has* occasioned a deal of misinformation about what may be done with dead bodies.

Journalists have written that the Anatomy Act 1984 makes it an offence to use body parts for anything other than medical research; that a person's dead body cannot be used for medical research without their express consent, given in a will; and that bodies *bequeathed for artistic purposes* have to be registered under the Anatomy Act at a medical school.

When a person dies, someone is obliged to "dispose" of their body. How may this be done and for how much do the wishes of the deceased count? In 1884 a judge ruled that disposal need not be by interment but could be by cremation. Implicit in this was that *disposal could* be by other, unspecified, methods.

The Public Health Act 1984 empowers the Home Secretary to regulate methods of disposal, other than burial, cremation, embalming and preservation, in the interests of public health or safety. Here is statutory recognition that these are not the only lawful means. No regulations have been made. A local authority *discharging a statutory duty* of disposing of a body must bury or cremate it. Probably all that is required of anyone else is that they deal with it decently and do not obstruct a coroner or cause a public nuisance or hazard to public health. It need not be "got rid of".

What is dealing with it decently? The answer is found — with difficulty — in vague common law offences. There may be an offence of mutilating a corpse. A minister was convicted of this for cutting off — *for sexual gratification* — the genitals of corpses awaiting burial in his chapel.

Judges have recently confirmed the *existence of* an *offence of "preventing* lawful burial", but it is unclear whether mutilating a corpse and preventing burial are distinct offences or different ways of committing the offences of treating a corpse with indignity and outraging public decency. If there is an offence of treating a corpse with indignity, neither it nor any other offence is committed, according to a former Director of Public Prosecutions, by a necrophiliac, even if he is a hospital porter availing himself of a body in a hospital mortuary.

Outraging public decency *definitely is an offence. Artistic* intent is no defence. This was established when the Court of Appeal upheld the conviction of an artist who exhibited a sculpture of a mannequin's head wearing earrings made from human embryos. The element of public decency in the offence will, if not admitted by a defendant, be determined by a jury.

CHARLES OMMANNEY/REX

Anthony-Noel Kelly with his controversial work

When Robert Lenkiewicz embalmed the body of a hobo friend for a souvenir, the local council tried to capture it to dispose of it. The Public Health (Control of Disease) Act requires a local authority to do this if "suitable arrangements" have *not* been made for a body's disposal. As the council reportedly agreed that the corpse posed no risk to health, it was apparently claiming to *supervise* decency. The claim is suspect. "Suitable arrangements" surely mean suitable for controlling the spread of disease.

People are *surprised* at how lacking in legal force are their wishes for the treatment of their dead bodies. Private Member's Bills introduced in *1981, 1995 and 1996 would have* made them binding. If there is an offence of treating a corpse with indignity, the deceased's wishes may have to be regarded in determining whether the treatment is undignified. Lord Avebury was reported to carry a donor card recording his wish that the remnants of his body, after dissection for transplantation, be fed to the *inmates of the Battersea Dogs* Home. Without such a wish, it is difficult to envisage that treating a body thus would not be regarded as offering indignities to it, though in a nation of animal lovers such as ours it would be no surprise if any *resulting prosecution* were for cruelty to the dogs.

The Anatomy Act provides some guarantee that one's obsequial wishes will be implemented. *The remnants of a* body given for medical research under the Act must be disposed of so far as possible in accordance with the deceased's wishes. Apart from this, the most one can do legally to ensure that one's body is treated in a particular way is to make all the legacies in *one's will conditional upon it.*

This technique was favoured when fear of premature burial was more widespread than it is now: legacies were made conditional upon bloodletting clauses being observed. If a person has *stated* that they *do not* wish their body to be used for medical purposes, their wish must be observed. The same used to apply to cremation; but *not now, except when a local* authority discharges a statutory duty of disposal.

This apart, a person who has the body is not legally obliged to implement the deceased's wishes. Provided the deceased did not object, the body may be given over *for* medical use; the deceased need not have expressed a wish for this to happen, whether in a will or otherwise, though if *they have not, their spouse* or relatives can prevent it. It was otherwise under the original *1832 Act*.

As for donating a body for artistic purposes, the mere act of donation *is unlikely to* be unlawful, whatever the deceased's wishes, but if, in using the corpse, the artist committed an offence, it might become unlawful as an aiding and abetting. Such a donation, however, does not have to be registered *under the Anatomy* Act even if the artist will be partitioning the body.

The Act prohibits unlicensed "anatomical examinations" and criminalises unlicensed possession of bodies given over for "anatomical examination" (an *examination "by dissection* ... for the purpose of teaching or studying, or researching into, morphology"). Even if the artist is "examining" the body and *doing so by dissection, it is un*likely that he or she will be doing so for any of those purposes. This may be why an offence under the Act was not *among those deployed against* the minister. His bodies had not been donated for "anatomical examination", and whatever he was up to, it was not the study of morphology.

● *The author teaches medical and ecclesiastical law at Cardiff Law School.*

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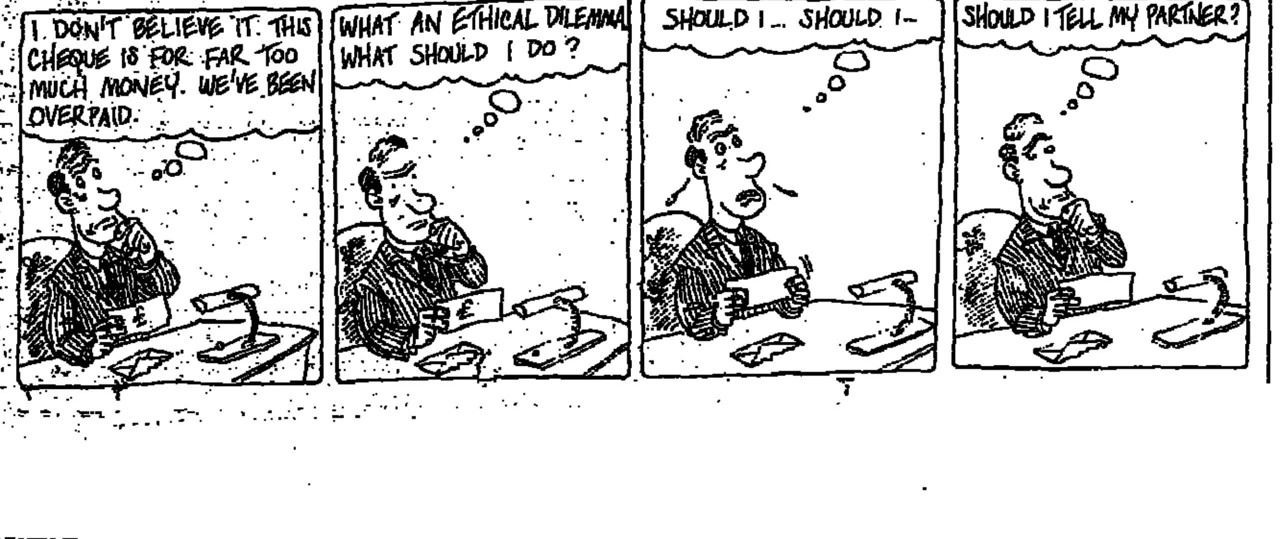
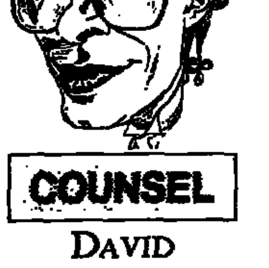


QUEEN'S COUNSEL
I. DON'T BELIEVE IT. THIS CHEQUE IS FOR FAR TOO MUCH MONEY. WE'VE BEEN OVERPAID.
WHAT AN ETHICAL DILEMMA WHAT SHOULD I DO ?
SHOULD I... SHOULD I–
SHOULD I TELL MY PARTNER?

How to judge a human rights Bill



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The Government intends to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law. There are overwhelming arguments for doing so in order to provide an effective domestic remedy *for grievances being addressed in Strasbourg* and on whose outcome the English judiciary is having little influence. Much more difficult is the decision on the model which incorporation should adopt.

There is no dispute that the convention should govern the application of the common law, judicial discretion and the powers of the *executive. The sensitive question is the extent* to which judges should be given power to ensure that primary legislation complies with the convention. *The Lord Chancellor, Lord* Irvine of Lairg, is chairman of a Cabinet committee considering this and other problems, with a view to publishing a White Paper in the autumn.

There are four main options. The strongest would be to enact a provision comparable to Section 2 of the European Communities Act, so that "any enactment passed or to be passed" by Parliament must "be construed and have effect subject to" the convention. *On this page last month,* Ben Emmerson and John Wadham advanced powerful arguments for the adoption of this model to ensure that rights conferred by the convention have full force and effect in the United Kingdom.

The second option would be to follow the relevant provision of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which empowers the court to grant a *remedy against a statutory pro*vision, unless the legislature has overridden fundamental rights, by expressly stating that the relevant provision has force and effect, notwithstanding the charter. *The third, and weakest, option is contained in* the badly drafted New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. Legislation, whether enacted before or after that Act, takes priority when it cannot be construed consistently with the Bill of Rights.

The inadequacies of this model led to the fourth option, designed by Lord Lester of *Herne Hill, QC, in his 1996 Human Rights* Bill, incorporating the convention, which was approved by the House of Lords. To the extent that *prior* legislation cannot be construed consistently with the convention, *the former would be impliedly repealed. That* is the normal approach to inconsistent statutory provisions. The court would strive to interpret consistently with the convention any statutory provision enacted after the Human Rights Act, but if this proved impossible, then no remedy could be granted by the English court.

The critics of Lord Lester's model ask why should we perpetuate an inadequacy of the present system, with parliamentary sovereignty trumping human rights, leaving victims to catch the slow plane to Strasbourg *where they may, if they have the stamina,* establish their remedy four or five years later?

There are two reasons why Lord Lester's Bill should provide the framework for the new legislation. The first is that it is more likely that a Human Rights Act will be enacted and will become a permanent and successful feature of British law if the Bill avoids *conferring supreme power on judges* over Parliament. The senior judiciary gave overwhelming support to Lord Lester's Bill, but expressed concern at the prospect of granting remedies to overturn subsequent statutory provisions. There also remains a large body of opinion in the House of Commons which is opposed to conferring *such broad powers on judges.*

The second reason for preferring Lord Lester's model is that it is unnecessary to adopt a purist approach that changes the constitutional relationship between judges and Parliament. Assume that, *after the adoption of a Human* Rights Act, Parliament were to enact a statutory provision which is alleged to breach fundamental rights. The judges would decide whether fundamental rights are at stake, and, if so, would strive to interpret the statute in a manner consistent with those rights.

If that could not be achieved, and if a conflict arose, the *applicant would obtain no* remedy, but would have the judges' opinion that the statutory provision breached fundamental rights. The Government and Parliament would know that unless *something were done about the matter* very speedily, the applicant would have an unanswerable case in Strasbourg. The Human Rights Act should confer delegated power on ministers to amend subsequent legislative provisions found to be in breach of fundamental rights and to pay compensation to victims.

Of course, ministers might ignore the judicial opinion. But whatever option is adopted, Parliament could respond to an adverse ruling by enacting new legislation that overrules the Human Rights Act in *relation to a specific issue.*

Our Human Rights Act should adopt a model appropriate for the UK. If it does so, it is most likely speedily to gain public, political and judicial support, and so perform effectively its task of protecting fundamental freedoms.

● *The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford.*

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A D Eburne, K W Jack, D W [illegible], N A Patrick, J M [illegible]

British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing

R J Sharp

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R L Knibb

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Institute of Measurement and Control

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N L Green

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Institute of British Foundrymen

C J Tait

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A C Vaz

Institute of Measurement and Control

D A Hughes

Institute of Plumbing

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Institute of Road Transport Engineers

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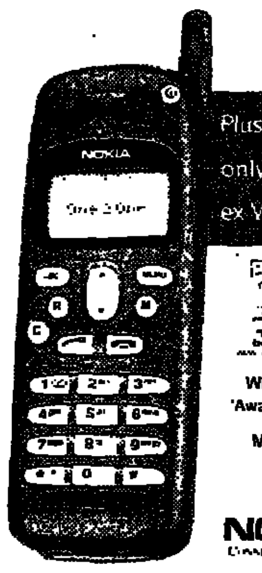

HOWARD J. DAVIES

Rwanda's criminal justice system was overwhelmed after large-scale arrests – including children suspected of murders or other serious crimes

Children of genocide

Marie Staunton reports on the unprecedented problem involving juveniles that is facing a war-ravaged African state

More than 2,000 boys and 80 girls are about to *stand trial* for genocide-related crimes in Rwanda — but is justice possible in a system with more than 110,000 cases?

Graça Machel, who reported on the impact of war on children to the United Nations in 1996, is very clear that *international standards of juvenile* justice must always be upheld: "The dilemma of dealing with children who are accused of committing acts of genocide illustrates the complexity of balancing culpability, a community's sense of justice and the best interests of *the child. The severity of the crime* involved, however, provides no justification to suspend or to abridge the fundamental rights and legal safeguards accorded to children under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child."

The juvenile *trials* starting in Rwanda this month demonstrate the huge practical problems in applying the Machel approach.

In July 1994 the justice system was non-existent. Prisons and jails were empty, court offices ransacked. Most *judges and court staff had either* been killed or sought refuge across the border. Yet soon after, large-scale arrests of people implicated in the genocide began and have continued ever since. Among them were children, many suspected of genocide-related *murders or other serious crimes*, either at the instigation of parents or adults or *as part of organised gangs.*

At first, children were held in the same overcrowded prisons as adults, prey to sexual exploitation and further indoctrination by adults. This not only contravened international legal standards set out in the Convention on the *Rights of the Child and the United* Nations rules for the protection of children deprived of their liberty, but seriously endangered their wellbeing. So the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) started building six children's prison wings, where most children are now held, an odd move for an organisation usually to be found advocating alternatives to custody.

But not all children have been moved and about 150 under the age of criminal responsibility (which is 14 in Rwanda) at the time of the alleged *crimes cannot be released because of* the lack of police officers to check dates of birth. The criminal justice system in Rwanda, which had been used to dealing with a few hundred criminal cases a year, lacked the capacity to bring the imprisoned juveniles to trial. *Forty judiciary police inspectors have* now been trained and equipped with motorcycles and cars to carry out investigations into juvenile cases.

Anyone aged between 14 and 18 at the time of the alleged offence will be indicted under Rwanda's Genocide Act, which reflects the Genocide Convention. However, there have been few *judges to try their cases. Recruiting* judges has been difficult, not least because the wages are low — $100 a month, the equivalent of a maid's salary. In accordance with international standards, the Rwandan Government agreed to set up special children's *panels. Jens Matthes, a newly qualified* German juvenile lawyer, has spent the last year in Rwanda organising training courses for judges and prosecutors on child rights, international juvenile justice standards and their applicability to Rwandan law. The new judges, *who are not lawyers but have all been* educated to high-school standard and attended a four-month course, will sit on benches of three in 12 districts. Only the president of each Specialised Genocide Chamber in each district will be a qualified lawyer. Defence lawyers *are being provided by a Belgian* voluntary association. However, under Rwandan law, the defence lawyers are unlikely to be given more than eight days' notice of the trial, to defend clients who face 10 to 20 years' imprisonment if convicted, half the *adult tariff but still a serious sentence.*

Nigel Cantwell, a British expert in the field who has been studying justice for juveniles in post-genocide Rwanda, says that although the Rwandan authorities are starting from zero, they are trying to apply international *standards, which are routinely ignored* even in wealthier and more developed countries. This month, the prosecution should succeed in at least starting the trials — in the knowledge that their fairness is under scrutiny by UN observers.

Mr Matthes says that the success of the trials is vital for a peaceful future. "Trying to get things done in a country where the infrastructure has been destroyed is often frustrating," he adds. "Training staff and setting up structures take a long time, and the *problems of juvenile justice are urgent.* But the justice system has an important function in reconciling the two ethnic groups and overcoming the legacy of genocide."

● *The author is a solicitor and the deputy executive director of Unicef (UK).*

When privilege is a valid defence

Patrick Milmo, QC, on an Australian libel ruling

The recent decision of the High Court of Australia (July 8, 1997) in (David) *Lange v the Australian Broadcasting Corporation* has quickly claimed attention here.

The case was a libel action *brought in New South* Wales by the former Prime *Minister of New Zealand* over defamatory remarks broadcast about him in Australia. The High Court had to consider whether the plea of privilege as a defence was viable. It held that, in principle, there could be such a defence, because the categories of *privilege should be* extended to protect a communication made to the public on a government or political matter.

Australian decisions are respected in English courts. The country's judges are considered sound, *perceptive interpreters* of the common law with a particular *ability* to develop and modernise it in a way that is intellectually and jurisprudentially acceptable. *What they* declare, of course, is *the common law of* Australia, but the concept of the homogeneity of the common law makes many statements of principle made by Australian courts influential on decisions here.

A *murmur likely to* become a clamour among media lawyers is that *Lange v ABC* has shown the path our judges must take on the issue of public-interest privilege. It may be only a matter *of time before the High* Court pronounces the existence of such privilege, which protects the press from actions brought by politicians or others in public life whom they have *attacked. The "repressive restrictions* imposed on the media by our outdated libel laws", as the press puts it, will be significantly loosened, or so one might think.

But before editors rush to retrieve stories about politicians they had spiked because of the libel risk, or journalists pick up the trail of some public villainy they had abandoned because of the difficulty of legal proof, *some consideration must be* given to the qualifications expressed by Australian judges on this extended defence of privilege.

Because publication of the defamatory material would not be confined to a limited number, as it is in most privilege situations, but to tens of thousands or more, and *the capacity for damage to* the victim was that much greater, it was not sufficient, said Chief Justice Brennan, that the publisher (who might be the writer, editor or broadcaster) should be acting without malice, or in good faith; his conduct must be reasonable, and it is up to him to prove it was.

What constitutes reasonableness? First, the publisher *must establish that he was* unaware that the defamatory article was false, and that he did not act recklessly in publishing it. But there are more stringent tests to satisfy. The publisher must *have reasonable grounds for* believing that the imputation was true and must have taken proper steps, so far as they were reasonably open, to verify the accuracy of the material. And the *Chief Justice of Australia* stated that a publisher's conduct will not, as a rule, be reasonable unless he has sought a response from the person defamed, and published that response.

The Australian judges were thus far from adopting the American position — criticism of a public figure is generally immune from legal action unless the person concerned can prove that the *publisher knew the allegations* to be untrue, a virtually *impossible feat. Under this* new area of privilege, a newspaper or broadcaster would have to expose for scrutiny all the processes of inquiry that preceded the publication of the report and the complaining politician or public official could be *expected to seize upon* any oversight, carelessness, misunderstanding or lack of communication in the course of investigative or editorial procedures as disqualifying the publishing defendant under the reasonableness test.

No doubt sources could still be protected, but *publishers will* have to bear in mind that where a source is not disclosed, any incipient scepticism of a *jury is likely* to be enhanced, and the *prospect of persuading* it that the publisher's conduct has been reasonable is correspondingly reduced. It can be envisaged that many of those in public life attacked by the media will be *quite prepared to join battle* on the issue of whether a newspaper's or broadcaster's conduct was reasonable.

That the Australian judges considered that public-interest privileges must be *subject to special conditions* is likely to make such a development of the law more compelling to English courts.

If, however, that course is followed, the press should be *under no illusions that it* would have unrestricted access to the hitherto legally perilous territory of political or public scandal.

● *The author is a libel specialist.*

> Many of those in public life attacked by the media will be prepared to join battle

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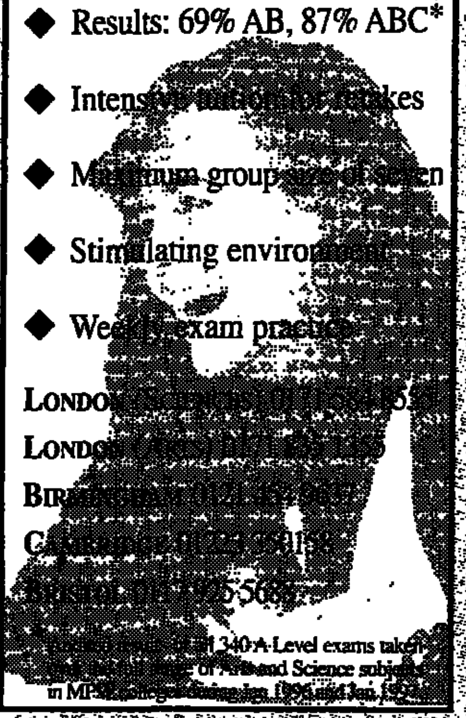

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EDUCATION

Hugh Thompson advises what to do if you don't get the required grades and **George Turnbull** explains how the standards are set

Stay ice cool and win the university challenge

The annual clearing system of matching unfilled university places and wannabe students is one of the great unavoidable scrambles of modern British life.

Square pegs are forced into round holes and desperate students consider unthinkable courses at places they had scarcely heard of. Nobody likes the mad rush after the A-level results which are published on Thursday, but nobody has come up with a better system.

Tens of thousands of students will contact scores of universities and, over the telephone, try to decide their futures. Universities, which try to run their admissions on a controlled and logical basis from October to March, throw caution to the wind and decide, sometimes in seconds, whether the person on the line fits the bill.

For the would-be undergraduates there is the problem of getting through on the limited number of hotlines then making a decision without all the discussion, research and thought that went into the original university plan. For the universities there is the problem of trying to make the most sense of what the student is offering. In such a madhouse it pays to obey a few basic ground rules.

■ Telephone as soon as you know your grades.

■ Check with your university of first choice; the offer may not be set in stone. They may also be able to offer a less popular, but related, course.

■ Have your Ucas number ready. The university is linked to that computer and will want your details up on screen.

■ Have a clear, but flexible, idea of what you want to do. If sociology is full, would you do social anthropology? If not English literature, how about English language?

■ Phone personally: there may be supplementary questions about choice or grades.

■ If your grades are way out of your school's prediction, most universities are open to persuasion, but only from your teachers, not parents.

■ Don't in desperation switch your choices from physics to chemistry to religious studies; it just isn't credible.

■ Remember part of the seeming anarchy of the situation comes from the marketplace aspect — the laws of supply and demand are dominant. Some courses have much higher requirements because they are much more in demand.

■ Think seriously about whether you should turn down a course because there is no room in a hall of residence.

■ Gap years are usually no problem; places are given for either year.

Dr Dick Collins, director of admissions at Lancaster University, says: "It's an absolutely frantic time; we are receiving something like 1,000 calls a day. To students I say be realistic, there are universities and universities; our average student gets the equivalent of three Bs. However, as elsewhere, in science it is lower. In our top subjects, such as marketing, we are getting 35 applicants for every place.

"Although it's a far from ideal process, our analysis of dropouts shows that it's nothing to do with the clearing system and people doing the wrong subjects. Our two biggest reasons for leaving are homesickness and financial pressures."

Ironically, given the clearing system, few universities find that A-level grades are great predictors of final degree marks. Commitment and motivation rather than school success are what most tutors put their money on for the better degrees.

Danne Francombe, of the University of the West of England, says: "Don't panic if you haven't quite got the grades specified. We take the view that if a student has committed themselves to us then we have a responsibility to help if something has gone wrong. We may move a few points, and when that can't help sometimes we offer an alternative course, such as politics and economics instead of law."

However, a word of warning. Because of the media attention and the improved technology, most universities expect the clearing process to be over by early next week. For this reason, Richard De Friend, Pro Vice-Chancellor of University of Kent at Canterbury, says: "You must be organised before the off. It's a hard one to call since most will not know they are relying on the clearing until late. It's important that you enter the system with an idea of what your real bottom line is."

LISTINGS SERVICE

Full listings of degree course vacancies and further advice on clearing will appear in The Times on Thursday

THE UNIVERSITY OF LIFE
I can feel a Gap!
I want to do English Language — IF not Telephonic Studies
I can get a note from my teacher & my mum
THE HALL OF RESIDENCE IS THE PUB
WHAT GRADE?
THIS IS A RECORDED MESSAGE... KEEP TRYING LATER... KEEP TRYING LATER ... GRRRRR...
WHAT CAREER? VOL 1
VOL 2
VOL 3
VOL 4
YE FAMILY MOTTO
Perseverance pays profits
UNIVERSITIES TO RING
Konfyaz

Test examiners' code is firm but fair to all

Strict marking criteria ensure candidates are treated equally

A dramatised account of A-level and GCSE examiners allegedly rigging grades may have increased Channel 4's ratings when the *Dispatches* programme *Making the Grades* was broadcast some months ago. *But it showed little of* what actually happens.

The rules for awarding grades are published in mandatory codes of practice and policed by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority *and Ofsted, the school inspectors.* Examiners see the work of an estimated 900,000 students who sit six million GCSEs and A levels each year.

Most of the marking is done within a six-week period. The *examination paper is* prepared 18 months before the *examination and cannot be* approved without a marking scheme. Together these documents will confirm that the demands made of this year's students are similar to those in previous years.

Care is taken to ensure that the elements of each syllabus — its aims and objectives, and its mark weightings for knowledge, understanding, recall and synthesis — are examined fully each year.

Examiners mark an average of 300 papers in three weeks. They must adhere to a rigorously enforced uniform standard that ensures all students are treated equally.

An intricate system of *checks and double checks* is brought into play from the moment the invigilator *tells* students to "stop writing". Even the checkers are checked. Examiners will meet as a group and mark photocopies of the same scripts, to ensure uniform marking. The *original marking scheme will* be refined at that meeting and applied, without exception, thereafter.

Further samples of each examiner's marking are sent to senior examiners for approval, before any mark sheets and scripts can be returned to the exam board. Extra samples are required thereafter, to ensure that the *standard of marking has been* maintained throughout.

Before the awarding meeting, where the grades are decided, the awarding committee receives marking schemes and papers from the previous year, along with photocopies of students' *scripts on* various grade boundaries — to ensure that it *is familiar with the standards* demanded of last year's students. It also receives copies of this year's papers and marking schemes. This year's scripts will be studied at the exam board itself, before and *during* the grade-awarding meeting. The meetings can *last two days or more.*

The crucial point is to ensure that the standard required to secure a particular grade is no more or less *demanding than in previous* years. If more students reach *that standard, then more* will be awarded that grade. That is why the greater success rates we have seen in the past few years are genuine. It is in nobody's interest for them to be otherwise — with the *exception of those in the* media who want to make a drama where there is no crisis.

● *George Turnbull is director of public relations for the Associated Examining Board and the Southern Examining Group*

CLEARING CASEBOOK

Samantha doing work experience

Samantha Gaines, 20, from York, has just completed her first year studying animal science at Nottingham University

I TOOK biology, chemistry and physics A levels, *and the first time I did them* I got a B and two Cs. I wanted to do veterinary science and needed two As and a B, so I went back to York Sixth Form College for a year.

I resat my A levels, so that in ten years I could say I had done everything possible to become a vet. *Unfortunately* I had glandular fever in my resit year and got two Bs and a C.

I was very upset and phoned all five vet schools but they all turned me down, even though I had a letter from the doctor. I knew I had to get on a back-up degree *and decided I wanted to do* agricultural or animal science. I got the clearing listings and was not bothered where I went, it was the course that was important.

I phoned Nottingham on the day of the A-level results. They said they did not see I would have a problem getting in because my grades were higher than their entry requirements.

I got my clearing form on the Friday and took it down on the Monday. They *gave me the offer there and then.* Clearing worked really well for me because I knew what I wanted to do. I think it is important to act quickly.

Every holiday I work as a veterinary nurse, so although I am not going to be a vet I still have the contact.

I really enjoy the animal nutrition part of the course, advising farmers and vets on diets for the animals. Things have worked out well for me and I am very happy with the course.

THE TIMES CHALLENGE OF THE MIND

Week two of *The Times* Challenge of the Mind competition with £10,000 worth of prizes to be won. The competition, to coincide with the first Mind Sports Olympiad, invites you to test your wits. Every day this week we will set you a number of puzzles to get you thinking. For further details of the Mind Sports Olympiad, at the Royal Festival Hall, London, from August 18 to 24, and how to enter, call **0171-703 2828.**

£500 GIN RUMMY PROBLEM by Paul Lamford*

The first of today's puzzles is based on the popular rummy variant that swept Hollywood in the 1940s and 1950s and became the game of the stars. The origins of rummy are reputed to be in the late 19th-century game of Coon-Can or Conquian, which was very popular with Spanish-Americans in Texas and Mexico and later became known as Knock Rummy. A similar Chinese game was called Kon Khin.

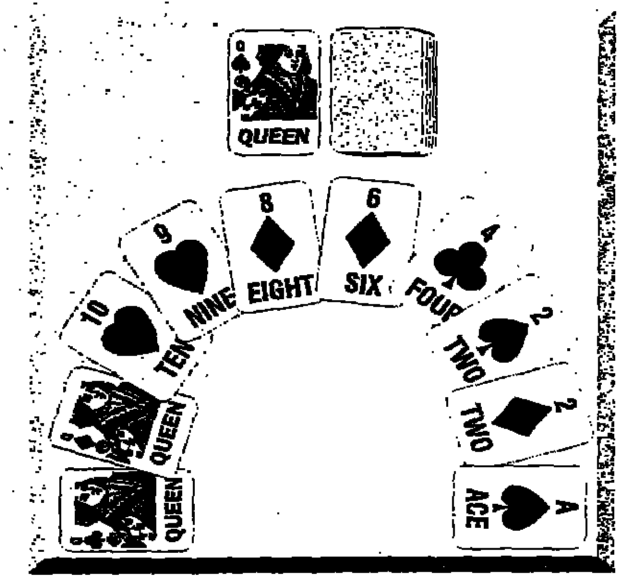
A standard deck of 52 cards is used and the cards rank from king down to ace. Ten cards are dealt to each player. The pack is then placed face down and the top card turned face up as the start of the discard pile. The non-dealer may take this card or decline to take it in which case the dealer decides whether he wants it. Each turn consists of taking one card, either the top of the discard pile or the top card of the upturned pack, and then discarding one card from the player's hand, which may be the same card as that picked up. The object is to meld as many of the cards in the hand as possible by forming either sequences, eg ♥4, ♥5, ♥6, or groups of matching cards of the same rank, eg ♦7, ♣7, ♥7, such that the total of cards not belonging to the meld is 10 points or less, with 10s and court cards counting as 10. When a player achieves this goal, he can *knock* and his hand is shown.

In today's problem, your hand is as shown and the queen of spades is face up. Your opponent dealt and you pick up the queen of spades. Which card *do you discard?*

a) the ♦8
b) the ♦6
c) the ♣4

Call 0891 102 728 (ex UK 44 990 200 637) before midnight tonight with your answer, a, b or c. The winner will get £500 and three runners-up will receive a £50 voucher, donated by Hamleys, for use in its Regent Street or Covent Garden, London, stores.

Winners will be chosen at random from all correct entries received and the answer will be published on *Thursday. Normal* TNL competition rules apply.



£500 TWIXT PROBLEM by David Pritchard*

Our second puzzle today is based on the game of Twixt, a two-player strategy path-forming board game launched in the US nearly 30 years ago.

The Twixt world championship will be held at the first Mind Sports Olympiad on Tuesday and Wednesday August 19 and 20. (Refer to the 16-page Mind Sports Olympiad supplement, which was free with yesterday's copy of *The Times*, for details.)

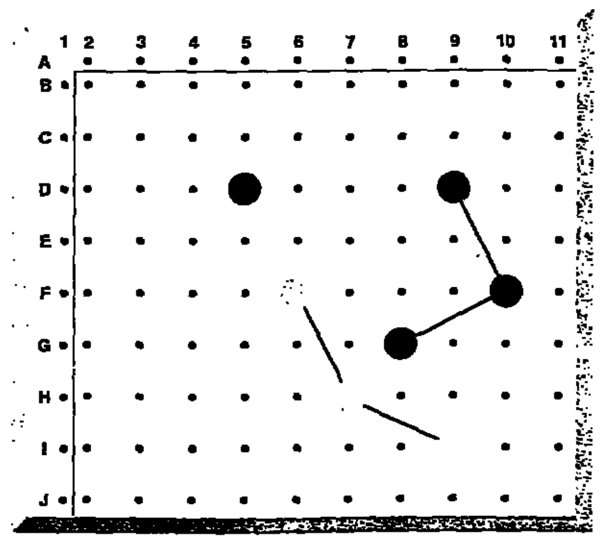
The game is played with pegs on a playing area of *22x22 small holes. A section* of the board is shown in the diagram. The two players in turn place a peg of their colour in a vacant hole on the board. *Where* two pegs of the same colour are a chess-knight's move apart, they are linked thereby forming a barrier that cannot be crossed. *In the diagram* White is trying to *form a continuous path* between the top and bottom of the board, while Black is attempting the same between the left-and right-hand sides. Black has just played d5.

What is White's best move?
a) e5
b) b7
c) d4

Call 0891 102 724 (ex UK 44 990 200 618) before midnight *tonight with your* answer, a, b or c.

The winner will get £500 and three runners-up will receive a £50 voucher, *donated by Hamleys, for* use in its Regent Street or Covent Garden, London, stores.

Winners will be chosen at random *from all correct* entries received and the answer will be published on Thursday. Normal Times Newspapers competition *rules apply. 0891 numbers* cost 50p per minute.



THE MIND SPORTS OLYMPIAD

Hamleys

£10,000 worth of prizes to be won with Challenge of the Mind

There's two prizes of £100 to be won today with these two *ten-minute* Mensa teasers. The winners will be chosen at random from all correct entries received by midnight tomorrow. For the Mensa problem, right, call 0891 102 729 (ex UK +44 990 200 638). For the Mensa problem far right, call 0891 102 725 (ex UK +44 990 200 619). Readers who get two or three of today's Mensa puzzles correct will receive a certificate and a Mensa information pack. *Paul Lamford is a former editor of *Games and Puzzles* magazine and is *commissioning* editor of chess and bridge for Batsford Books.

TEN MINUTE MENSA PROBLEM

Q1. What number should replace the question mark ?

2764	1424	48
5934	4512	202
6883	4824	?

Q2. If DJ = 40 and FK = 66, what does HQ equal ?

Q3. Which is the odd word out ?

NECKLACE BROACH EARRING BRACELET

Call 0891 102 729 (ex UK +44 990 200 638). 0891 calls cost 50p per minute

TEN MINUTE MENSA PROBLEM

Q1. The numbers in box 1 move clockwise to the positions in the second box. Where should the missing numbers be ?

5	2	6
7	■	9
12	4	3

		(a)		
	3	?	4	
(d)	?	■	?	(b)
	5	?	2	
		(c)		

Q2. What word is being described here ?

A fraud, an imposter, empty talk, a peppermint flavoured sweet

Q3. Six times a number is half the square root of 144. What is that number ?

Call 0891 102 725 (ex UK +44 990 200 619). 0891 calls cost 50p per minute

Day 5 (Friday) SOLUTIONS

Mastermind: answer was YELLOW, RED, BLACK, WHITE, WHITE. Alec Falconer, of Edinburgh, wins £500. Mensa Problem: 1 1^3, 6^3 8^3. 2 36 — sum of alphabetical positions of first and last letters. 3 They all have hidden coastal terms: bay, sea, cove, surf. P Stone, of Basingstoke, wins £100.

*David Pritchard is a former editor of *Games and Puzzles* magazine and the author of books on Chess, Go, Backgammon and bridge.

TOMORROW: PLAY OWARI FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN MORE PRIZES — PLUS THE SOLUTIONS TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLES

Former superpowers share the same concerns

David Powell ponders the lack of gold won by Britain's best in Athens

Moorcroft: common aim

AS GREAT Britain's athletics chiefs reflected yesterday on the causes and potential consequences of failing to win a gold medal at a world championships for the first time, their frown was shared by their counterparts from the United States. Not for 21 years had American athletes at a global championships won as few as the seven events in which they triumphed in Athens.

By a timely coincidence, Britain and the United States have each appointed a new chief executive, both former milers. In the week that David Moorcroft was named to lead British athletics out of its troubles, Craig Masback was given the task of selling the sport to Americans after the country had failed to build on the promotional chances provided by hosting the 1984 and 1996 Olympic Games.

During the championships here, Moorcroft and Masback exchanged ideas and will assist each other where possible. They agreed, for example, that to persuade the lost spectators to return, more dual-nation international fixtures are needed, that the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) grand prix needs to change and that the IAAF has not gone far enough with its "wild card" system.

The statistics of the world championships are these: Britain won five siver medals and one bronze, but, without a gold, finished 26th in the overall medal table. The United States led the table, but, after three Olympics and three world championships in which the country's gold medal count was never fewer than ten, seven represents an alarming decline.

The former Soviet states won only two gold medals between them, a united Germany five. These four former superpowers of the sport are finding it increasingly difficult to produce winners as ever more nations — 200 took part — compete for honours. Forty one countries appear on the medals table, whereas, until 1993, the number was less than 30.

"We are never going to win more than two or three gold medals at our very best," Moorcroft warned. To achieve even that, the British Athletic Federation (BAF) is dependent on National Lottery funding and, on that subject, Malcolm Arnold, the BAF performance director, is growing weary.

"It was very important for the sport [in Britain] to win at least one gold medal," Arnold said. "For me, the gripe is the same — seven years lack of funding, virtually no money to prepare the team this year and National Lottery sports fund money not yet on board."

Five gold medals would, in the 1980s, have been a national disgrace for the former East Germany. It is indicative of how medals are more evenly spread now that a combined Germany should win five events here and be applauded.

"The great worry for Britain is that we see people in Europe, like Germany, who have had a good championships, with their system running for three or four years and adequately funded," Arnold said. "It is so frustrating that we have this rich vein of talent among the youngsters — 33 medals won in Europe this year at under-18, under-20 and under-23 level — but it seems we are not yet able to move them on to the highest level."

Arnold blamed "the bureaucratic process", which leaves the BAF still awaiting its first National Lottery payments, for stifling development. The BAF has little money of its own and the inability to deliver a gold medal may cost millions of pounds in lost sponsorship, television and gate money.

Two critical areas for funding that Arnold mentioned were coaching and medical support. Coaching needs to be more specific and, only by working with a network of physiotherapists, will the BAF be able to ensure that a nearfully fit team turns up for the championships. Too many athletes arrived here injured.

"Under the new plan, we will get reports back from the physiotherapists so our medical staff will have a better handle on what is happening before we get the athletes out to the championships," Malcom Brown, the BAF medical officer, said. Brown said that the scatter gun approach to treatment meant that "only when the athletes come to the championships do we have a clearer idea of what the problems are and, by that time, it is often too late".

Moorcroft would do well to remind detractors that, with 20 silver medals in global championships since Jonathan Edwards won Britain's last gold in 1995, the nation's athletes remain highly competitive. Nor should we be allowed to forget the British men's team victory at the European Cup in June.

Masback said it was "a huge success of the IAAF" to have used its development programme to make athletics a thoroughly global sport. The stronger competition apart, he thought the United States' decline was the manifestation of two things: the "frightening" number of people choosing to do other sports and "post-Atlanta let-down".

Twice a day in Atlanta, 80,000 spectators turned up for athletics, yet, even now, little is seen on television. Masback believes that expanded indoor and outdoor seasons, more college competitions and international matches would help to stir television interest.

	G	S	B	Tot
United States	7	3	8	18
Germany	5	1	4	10
Cuba	4	1	1	6
Kenya	3	2	2	7
Ukraine	2	4	1	7
Morocco	2	1	1	4
Czech Republic	2	0	0	2
Norway	2	0	0	2
Russia	1	4	3	8
Spain	1	3	1	5
Portugal	1	2	1	4
Australia	1	1	2	4
Italy	1	1	1	3
Romania	1	1	1	3
South Africa	1	1	0	2
Canada	1	1	0	2
Poland	1	1	0	2
France	1	0	1	2
Japan	1	0	1	2
Mexico	1	0	1	2
Denmark	1	0	0	1
Ethiopia	1	0	0	1
New Zealand	1	0	0	1
Sweden	1	0	0	1
Trinidad and T	1	0	0	1
Great Britain	0	5	1	6
Jamaica	0	3	4	7
Belarus	0	2	2	4
Greece	0	1	1	2
Lithuania	0	1	1	2
Bulgaria	0	1	0	1
Finland	0	1	0	1
Namibia	0	1	0	1
Nigeria	0	1	0	1
Uganda	0	1	0	1
Sri Lanka	0	1	0	1
Bahamas	0	0	1	1
Brazil	0	0	1	1
Mozambique	0	0	1	1
Slovakia	0	0	1	1
Switzerland	0	0	1	1

SAILING

Fastnet jinx strikes Americans' hopes in Admiral's Cup

By Edward Gorman, Sailing Correspondent

NOT since 1989, when Great Britain last won the Champagne Mumm Admiral's Cup, has a team successfully defended a series lead going into the 605-mile Fastnet Race. This is something that the Americans know only too well, having gone into the Fastnet two years ago with a lead of 25 points, only to lose the championship to Italy by the equivalent of six Fastnet places.

It could be that history is repeating itself. This time, the Americans — whose yachtsmen are regarded as vulnerable offshore — started with a 15-point lead over New Zealand, but, more than halfway through the race, they have slipped to second, with Italy, once again, in the lead by five points.

Computer projections for points at the end of the championship, based on positions of the 21-strong fleet yesterday, kept the Germans in third place and put the team of three British boats — *Corum Indulgence*, *Easy Oars* and *Bradamante* — up to fourth from fifth, less than one point ahead of the Australians.

The main losers so far are the New Zealand team, who were among the early favourites for the Cup but who are languishing in sixth place, having started the race second overall. Russell Coutts in the big boat, *Numbers*, is last in his class, as is Tom Dodson's ILC 40, *Mean Machine*, while the Mumm 36, *Georgia Express*, skippered by David Barnes, lies fourth. This gives New Zealand a projected Fastnet tally of 72 points, which, if maintained, will blow apart their championship hopes.

After a slow start to the race over the weekend, conditions have improved with fresh southerly winds powering the yachts up to the Fastnet Rock yesterday afternoon. The leading big boat, *Flash Gordon*, was clocked at nine knots just before she went round at 5.00pm yesterday, a matter of seconds ahead of the Italians, in *Madina Milano*.

Results 40

The race could hardly be closer with satellite fixes showing many boats within tenths of miles of each other as they headed back towards the finish at Plymouth. The British team have benefited from a an improvement of one place by *Corum Indulgence* from fourth to third in her class and by John Merricks's *Bradamante* continuing to lead the Mumm 36 class, with more than a one-hour advantage over the Australians in *Sea*. Yet the ILC 40, *Easy Oars*, skippered by Andy Beadsworth, dropped from fifth to sixth in her class yesterday, underlining that the fate of the teams in the championship has as much to do with their own performance as with how well or badly boats in other teams are doing.

A small piece of history was made yesterday when the first multihulls to race in the Fastnet finished at Plymouth. They were set a slightly longer course than the rest of the fleet, but this did not stop them getting in well ahead of the monohulls, with Laurent Bourgnon's 60ft trimaran, *Primagaz*, crossing the line at 2.30pm — 11 minutes ahead of Loick Peyron's *Fujicolour*. *Primagaz*, which won the Round Europe Race this year, covered the 635-mile course at an average speed of 13.9 knots. Third to finish was the third 60ft trimaran in the race, *Banque Populaire*, skippered by Thierry Bouvard.

The nine new Whitbread 60s, meanwhile, are putting on a sparkling curtain-raiser for the round-the-world race that they were built for, which starts next month. Racing has been very tight and the leading boats — *Silk Cut*, skippered by Lawrie Smith, and *Merit Cup*, skippered by Grant Dalton — were within three minutes of each other rounding the Rock, with Dalton just ahead.

For much of the race, all nine boats have been within 25 miles of each other. Chris Dickson's *Toshiba* was in third place, one mile behind Smith, while George Collins, the only amateur skipper, had climbed through the fleet to be fourth. Paul Cayard, taking part in his first Whitbread 60 at the helm of *EF Language*, was in sixth place. Dalton reported yesterday that he is pleased that his Farr design is keeping pace with Smith's Farr boat on what he described as a "wet and windy ride".

Among the other monohulls, the leader among the five Ericsson 80s is *Banque Internationale à Luxembourg*, skippered by Ross Field, who has Ludde Ingvall's *Nicorette* on his tail. Next is Hasso Plattner's IMS maxi, *Morning Glory*, which is doing well to be racing among the waterballasted Ericssons, with three of them astern of her.

Hague at home in unknown territory

JULIAN MUSCAT

on a world event not on the sporting map

MARTIN BEDDALL

Hague is tracking a gold medal for Britain in the world championships in Norway

Yvette Hague is a world-class competitor in a sport that we recognise but know precious little about. She excels at orienteering, a time-trial across unseen and rugged countryside with rudimentary navigational aids. Her participation in the world orienteering championships in Norway this week promises the perfect antidote to the disappointments of the Great Britain athletes in Athens. However, even a gold medal will barely warrant a mention alongside frenzied critiques of football and cricket, two sports at which Britain trails other nations.

To meet Hague is to appreciate Britain's penchant for thriving on defeat while eschewing excellence in other spheres. Hague, 30, is an athlete of international stature. She has been plagued by injury throughout most of her competitive life, receives minimal funding and next to no recognition, yet she never once questions the severe demands of orienteering. She does it purely for the thrill, for the sheer pleasure of competing, the elation it brings to her life. She is living testament to the fact that money contaminates the sporting soul.

While it is never likely to command prime-time television viewing, orienteering embraces the tenet of all captivating pursuits. It blends immense physical demands with a mental prowess not readily associated with populist sports. The latter are increasingly influenced by managers, coaches and mentors who effectively organise the athlete's mind.

Hague has to plot her course while pounding terrain that would disembowel a Sherman tank. She will be undermined by self-doubt, forever seeking landmarks to validate her route, all the while straining to maintain concentration as fatigue sets in over the closing checkpoints. There is no such thing as a perfect race: a few careless seconds can take minutes to redeem. It is the closest sporting metaphor to the hare and the tortoise.

Indications abound that Hague, who has been orienteering since the age of seven, has a raw love of the land. She finances her passion with part-time work as a geologist at the University of London's Royal Holloway unit, situated within an easy jog of Windsor Great Park, itself the perfect training facility, with its carpet of grass, for athletes with tender limbs. She performs best, she said, over the rugged, hilly terrain of Norway (the host to these world championships), its natural beauty inspiring her to greater heights of performance than Britain's less demanding landscape. When she retires, two years from now, she said she will continue to run "for pleasure" through the mountains of the Lake District.

She is not of the rangy mould so predominant among medal-winners in Athens, nor is she so obsessed with her sport that she wears it like an anorak. "There are a lot of die-hards in orienteering, but the better ones are not like that," she said. "Some people love it because they are out there alone, without an audience judging their every move."

Hague, whose sporting excellence is masked by her petite frame, is all matter-of-fact when discussing the demands of orienteering. It requires considerable prompting for her to outline "the frustration, the rages and swearing and the pleasure and satisfaction" promoted by racing through mountainous forests. The orienteer faces a constant battle to keep those emotions under control, to remain buoyant after taking a wrong route, to avoid complacency when getting it right.

"If you are running well, you are so tuned into the way everything feels around you," she said. "You make mental notes of landmarks you expect to see and they pop up like clockwork. It is an amazing feeling when it all comes together like that. I've never felt it in anything else I have done and, to be honest, I don't expect to in the future."

After an operation on her shins in December, Hague maintained that she is short of her peak for the world championships. All told, she will run five times in as many days, covering about 15 kilometres in three seperate races. However, she pronounced herself "in as good a shape" as she was two years ago, when she collected silver medals in the classic and short-distance categories. "Because of my shins, I have never been in top condition before a world championships," she said. "In training, I am running the best I have done for years, but having the operation meant I did not start running again until March."

Her training regime is similar to that employed by a half-marathon runner. She runs between eight and ten miles each day, six days a week, although her roadwork has been perenially curtailed by long-troublesome shins. Although she will not start favourite for any event in Norway this week, she believes her competitive instinct gives her a fighting chance.

'She has to plot a course and pound terrain that would disembowel a Sherman tank'

"I know I will have to rely on others making mistakes to win," she insisted. "A few of the girls are fitter than me." Against that, Hague thrives on the technical nature of orienteering in Norway. "I am good under pressure," she said. "That's why it was so frustrating to watch our athletes at the world championships in Athens. Very few of them produced personal bests."

That latter remark promotes an interesting scenario. With each orienteering course differing from the next, personal bests cannot be measured against the clock. By Hague's own definition, the silver medal that she won two years ago dictates that nothing but the gold will suffice this time. She hedged slightly when confronted by the argument. "I'll be disappointed if I don't finish first, let's put it that way." The pity is that precious few Britons will be celebrating or commiserating with her.

THE TIMES

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BOWLS

Hawes leads Oxford to narrow victory

KATHERINE HAWES, who won two national singles titles at the weekend, was almost eliminated from the EWBA national fours championship at Royal Leamington Spa yesterday, but just managed to scrape into the third round, along with three of her City and County of Oxford colleagues (David Rhys Jones writes).

Oxford trailed Street, from Somerset, 10-15 with only four ends left to play, but, with Hawes playing a crucial role at No 3, Oxford edged back into the frame with a single and two doubles. A front-toucher from their lead, Mainwaring, broke a 15-15 deadlock with a double on the 21st end.

Having won the title in 1994, Peterborough were thought to be strong contenders, but something went wrong in their encounter in the first round with Stratford-upon-Avon, for whom Rachael Chedgzoy was in fine form at the front end of the rink.

The Stratford quartet, skipped by Chedgzoy's mother, Elizabeth Chedgzoy, took control from the start and led 9-0 after only four ends, ultimately winning 22-10.

TENNIS

Henman's poor form sees his ranking slip

TIM HENMAN, after two successive first-round defeats, has dropped from No 18 to No 21 in the latest world rankings issued by the Association of Tennis Professionals, while Greg Rusedski has gone down one place from No 24 to No 25.

Henman's fall could seriously affect his chances of getting a seeded position at the US Open, which begins later this month, with most of the world's leading players expected to enter at Flushing Meadow. Last year, Henman reached the last 16 at the US Open and, if he fails to get that far again, he could drop even further down the rankings.

This week, Henman is playing in the Pilot Pen International in Connecticut, where he is seeded No 7. Apart from a good Wimbledon, where he reached the quarter-finals, the British No 1 has rarely reached top form since having an elbow operation at the end of March.

☐ Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde have now become the third most successful doubles pair in tennis history after winning their 45th career title in Cincinnati on Sunday evening.

Saturday, August 16

Coupon No, fixture, forecast

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION
1 Charlton v Oxford Utd 1
2 Crewe v West Brom 1
3 Portsmouth v Port Vale 1
4 Reading v Swindon 2
5 Stockport v Bury 1

SECOND DIVISION
6 Bournemouth v Wigan 1
7 Brentford v Chesterfield 2
8 Bristol City v Blackpool X
9 Burnley v Gillingham 1
10 Carlisle v Watford 1
11 Plymouth v Grimsby 2
12 Preston v Millwall 1
13 Walsall v Fulham X
14 Wycombe v N'hampton 1
15 York v Bristol Rovers 2

THIRD DIVISION
16 Barnet v Exeter 1
17 Brighton v Macclesfield 1
18 Camb U v Rotherham 2
19 Cardiff v Chester 1
20 Doncaster v P'boro 2
21 Hartlepool v Colchester 1
22 Hull v Notts County X
23 Lincoln v Shrewsbury X
24 Rochdale v Mansfield 2
25 Scunthorpe v L Orient X
26 Torquay v Scarborough 1

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE
27 Dover v Cheltenham X
28 Gateshead v F'boro 1
29 Hayes v Halifax 2
30 Hereford v Welling 1
31 Kettering v Slough X

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION
32 Celtic v Dunfermline 1
33 Hearts v Aberdeen 2
34 Motherwell v St J'stone X

FIRST DIVISION
35 Falkirk v Ayr 1
36 G Morton v Hamilton 1
37 Partick v Dundee 2
38 Raith v Airdrie 1
39 St Mirren v Stirling 1

SECOND DIVISION
40 Brechin v Inverness CT 2
41 Clyde v Forfar 1
42 E Fife v Stenhousemuir 1
43 Livingston v Stranraer 1
44 Q of South v Clydebank X

THIRD DIVISION
45 Albion v Berwick 1
46 Alloa v Cowdenbeath 1
47 Arbroath v East Stirling X
48 Dumbarton v Montrose 1
49 Ross Co v Queen's P 1

TREBLE CHANCE: Bristol City, Walsall, Hull City, Lincoln City, Scunthorpe United, Dover, Kettering, Motherwell, Queen of the South, Arbroath.

BEST DRAWS: Bristol City, Walsall, Hull City, Lincoln City, Kettering.

AWAYS: Swindon, Chesterfield, Grimsby, Peterborough, Mansfield.

HOMES: Charlton, Portsmouth, Stockport, Burnley, Barnet, Brighton, Cardiff, Gateshead, Hereford.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Burnley, Barnet, Brighton, Gateshead, Hereford. Aways: Swindon, Chesterfield, Peterborough. Draws: Walsall, Hull, Lincoln.

Vince Wright

Vince Wright's five fixed odds home selections were all correct last Saturday.

ص١٥ من الاصل

RACING: FANCIED RUNNERS DOUBTFUL FOR BIG YORK HANDICAP

JULIAN HERBERT / ALLSPORT

Shantou and Dettori, right, resume a winning partnership in the Geoffrey Freer Stakes at Newbury on Saturday

Stoute gives Ebor warning

BY CHRIS McGRATH

THE *Knavesmire was once* the site of York's gallows, and ante-post punters on the Tote-Ebor — the historic handicap run there next Wednesday — can be forgiven if they feel that the noose is beginning to *tighten. Michael Stoute, the* trainer of two of the first four in the sponsor's book, yesterday warned that both are doubtful for what is always *one of the biggest betting races* in the calendar.

Purist and Mohawk River are well-bred, lightly raced horses with the potential to be better than handicappers. Unfortunately, with the sultry weather continuing, their cricket-loving trainer considers their supporters to be on a sticky wicket. "Nobody wants to be backing either of them," *he said. "Mohawk River won't* run unless the ground is good, and the same is true of Purist, who is also in the Great Voltigeur anyway. He has already missed Goodwood because of fast ground."

But while Stoute gave notice of depressing defections, there was news yesterday of an exciting recruitment. Enough recent European champions have ended up on Japanese stud farms to get people muttering darkly about what happens if you sell off the *family silver. Yesterday, how*ever, the National Stud announced a coup with the lease of Hector Protector for the 1998 covering season, with an option to retain his services the following spring.

*The stud is justifiably opti*mistic that the deal, as the bloodstock equivalent of importing exotic footballers in the mould of Zola and *Juninho, will have enduring* ramifications for the British *breeding industry. When Hec*tor Protector was sold to Teruya Yoshida as a stallion, it was with a pedigree to match racecourse achievements which included five group one races at two and *three years old.*

If anything, he has become a still more attractive proposition since. His sister, Bosra Sham, has developed into a champion, while the family boasts another one in Lammtarra. Hector Protector, meanwhile, was a leading sire *in Japan in 1995 and 1996, with* four stakes winners in his first crop.

The National Stud has responded with a mixture of imagination and pragmatism to the intimidating imbalances *of the bloodstock world. Em*bracing the modern culture of "shuttling" stallions between hemispheres, doubling their yield, it has sent Suave Dancer, Celtic Swing and Puissance to Australia and Be My Chief to Brazil. *Miles Littlewort*, its chief executive, hopes that such flexibility can continue to open new horizons.

"Hector Protector is cur*rently in Australia, and proba*bly won't be arriving until after Christmas," Littlewort said. "We've got to accept that these are expensive commod*ities which* have to be used sensibly. This deal could have *far-reaching repercussions. It* is now a world market, and we have to be prepared to operate within it. You can either say that you can't afford it, or turn *around and say there is more* than one way to crack the problem. You can go into partnership with one another, you can use the horses more imaginatively."

It will be interesting one day to see how Shantou fares as a stallion. The St Leger winner *has plenty of ability, but tends* to use it most generously only *when asked by the right* person. That person is Frankie Dettori, and his unavailability at Ascot last time gave John Gosden reservations about *running him* at all. In the event, Shantou, partnered by Gary Hind, never got into the race after being hampered at halfway.

But Dettori, who rode a treble at Windsor yesterday, will resume the partnership in the Tripleprint Geoffrey Freer Stakes at Newbury on Saturday, even though Classic Cliche or Predappio may represent Godolphin. Simon Crisford, racing manager to *Godolphin, said:* "They have a recognised partnership, and won a classic together. Our plans won't be finalised for a day or two, anyway, as both horses have alternatives abroad."

Fly To The Stars, trained by Mark Johnston, attempts to follow up his recent Goodwood victory in the Prix de *Tourgeville at Deauville to*day. Olivier Peslier rides.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: JILTED
(3.00 Bath)
Next best: Sharp Deed
(2.30 Bath)

BATH

THUNDERER

2.00 Noeprob
2.30 SHARP DEED (nap)
3.00 First Village
3.30 Castle Courageous
4.00 Tuscan Dawn
4.30 Brimstone
5.00 Courageous Knight

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: *4.30 POETTO.*

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.00 MOUSEHOLE (nap).

GOING: GOOD — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST — SIS

2.00 AUGUST SELLING STAKES
(£2,528: 1m 5yd) (18 runners)

101	(2)	600-500	AGWA 5 (F) (Mrs S Jones) J Bridger 9-9-3	G Bardwell	81
102	(8)	0-55006	DANCING LAWYER 10 (D,F,S) (Vintage Services Ltd) K Burke 6-9-3	B Doyle	75
103	(1)	0200/00	FENGARI 3 (S) (F J Wood) M Madgwick 6-9-3	N Varley	–
104	(10)	1200062	GREATEST 9 (B,D,F) (Invictus (III)) Guy Kelleway 6-9-3	R Ffrench (3)	89
105	(15)	0050015	HAWAII STORM 13 (D,F,S) (C Cassell) D Ffrench Davis 9-9-3	Martin Dwyer (3)	82
106	(7)	0565650	KILDEE LAD 15 (C,F,G) (C Gorman) A P Jones 7-9-3	A Clark	[illegible]
107	(16)	5003622	RUNIC SYMBOL 6 (F) (C Swain) M Blanshard 6-9-3	J Quinn	82
108	(17)	5-08000	SAKHAROV 8 (B,F,G) (Mrs B Hancock) B Palling 8-9-3	T Sprake	69
109	(9)	2-43253	THE EXECUTOR 16 (BF,D,F,G) (J Joseph) R O'Sullivan 7-9-3	J Reid	87
110	(12)	0560-00	VERRO 7 (V,S) (P Purdy) P D Purdy 10-9-3	Sophie Mitchell	–
111	(11)	50-0	AIRBORNE HARRIS 163 (Harries And Princes) A Bailey 4-8-12	D Wright	–
112	(14)	0300042	CHARLTON IMP 9 (CD,F) (R Hodges) R Hodges 4-8-12	S Drowne	78
113	(3)	40	HE KNOWS THE RULES 132 (J Henwood) R Buckler 5-8-12	C Rutter	–
114	(6)	6400320	MY HANDSOME PRINCE 8 (D Holmes) P Bevan 5-8-12	N Carlisle	79
115	(13)	2006406	NOEPROB 8 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs F Bradshaw) R Hodges 7-8-12	P P Murphy (3)	91
116	(18)	0000-00	NORTHERN CLAN 8 (P Pears) A Chamberlain 4-8-12	S Carson (7)	–
117	(4)		PEGASUS BAY 211 (D Cantillon) Miss E Embiricos 6-8-12	R Cochrane	–
118	(5)	2060-	OLD ROMA 407 (1997 Partnership) John Berry 4-8-7	K Darley	97

BETTING: 4-1 Greatest, 5-1 The Executor, 13-2 Kildee Lad, 7-1 Hawaii Storm, Runic Symbol, 8-1 Noeprob, 12-1 Agwa, Dancing Lawyer, 14-1 others.

1996: CHARLTON IMP 3-8-5 S Drowne (15-2) R Hodges 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

AGWA 16l 9th of 12 to Hard to Figure in claimer here (5f 161yd, good). GREATEST beat Marton Wallace neck in 14-runner seller at Chepstow (7f, good to soft).
HAWAII STORM 5l 5th of 7 to Sandhill in claimer at Sandown (7f, good to firm).
KILDEE LAD 9l 9th of 13 to Resist The Force in handicap at Brighton (6f, good to firm). RUNIC SYMBOL 6l 2nd of 8 to Colour Counsellor in handicap at Brighton (1m 2f, good). THE EXECUTOR 1¼l 3rd of 11 to Colins Choice in claimer at Wolverhampton (1m 100y, AW) with SAKHAROV (5lb worse off) 12 8th. MY HANDSOME PRINCE 12l 8th of 10 to Surf City in rated stakes at Carlisle (7f, good to firm).
Selection: GREATEST

2.30 MILE MAIDEN HANDICAP
(£2,915: 1m 5yd) (18 runners)

201	(2)	3-40040	MULTHILLES 21 (Amateur Ltd And Mr C Montecolombi) Bob Jones 4-10-0	N Day	85
202	(18)	022324	SAMARA SONG 7 (BF) (Turton Builders) I Williams 4-9-2	T Sprake	89
203	(5)	2-000	DAZZLING STONE 22 (E Penser) Lady Herries 3-9-2	R Cochrane	85
204	(7)	00-0402	ABSOLUTE UTOPIA 25 (M Lazarone) N Berry 4-9-2	B Doyle	88
205	(10)	0-02433	OCTAVIA HILL 11 (B) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 4-9-1	C Lowther (5)	90
206	(6)	0000	MAGIC LAIR 25 (G Smart) I Balding 4-9-1	L Dettori	92
207	(3)	340-500	MARTINEZ 15 (C Clayton) A Bailey 3-8-13	D Wright	88
208	(1)	00-0524	SHARP DEED 13 (P Harrington) P Makin 3-8-11	J Reid	91
209	(4)	6560-00	PRAIRIE MINSTREL 38 (P Hurst) R Dickin 3-8-10	A Culhane	81
210	(13)	0005200	JOLLY JACKSON 17 (Earl of Mrs A Valentine) R Akehurst 3-8-10	S Sanders	87
211	(16)	063535	ROCKAROUNDTHECLOCK 61 (Alan A Wright) T Watson 3-8-8	D Holland	65
212	(12)	260-650	HANNALOU 34 (T Murray) T Mills 4-8-8	R Ffrench (3)	[illegible]
213	(17)	00006-	D J CAT 270 (J Mulvey) W Muir 4-8-4	Martin Dwyer (3)	–
214	(13)	0-00	DESPINA 24 (Earl Cadogan) H Candy 3-8-3	C Rutter	91
215	(5)	30-0000	GULF OF SIAM 24 (B) (T Kelly) E Wheeler 4-8-2	A Daly (5)	–
216	(15)	6-0000	OVER THE MOON 10 (V) (P Nelson) M Fetherston-Godley 3-8-1	F Norton	91
217	(11)	0-00204	BAIRN ATHOLL 5 (D Phillips) R Hodges 4-7-13	N Adams	84
218	(14)	0500	IMPERIAL GLEN 22 (M Hoskins) M Usher 3-7-13	J Marshall	87

BETTING: 11-2 Octavia Hill, 6-1 Samara Song, 7-1 Absolute Utopia, Sharp Deed, Jolly Jackson, 9-1 Dazzling Stone, 10-1 Multhilles, Rockaroundtheclock, 14-1 others.

1996: CA'D'ORO 3-9-5 S Drowne (6-1) G Balding 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

SAMARA SONG 4l 4th of 8 to Country Thatch in handicap at Folkestone (1m 1f 149y, good to firm). ABSOLUTE UTOPIA 2¼l 2nd of 15 to Eurobox Boy in handicap at Salisbury (1m, firm) with SAMARA SONG (1lb better off) ½l 3rd and MAGIC LAIR 13l 12th. OCTAVIA HILL 1¾l 3rd of 7 to G Factor in handicap at Salisbury (7f, good to firm). SHARP DEED 3½l 4th of 12 to Monument in rated stakes at Nottingham (1m 2f, good to firm). ROCKAROUNDTHECLOCK 4½l 5th of 12 to Court Express in maiden at Carlisle (6f, firm). DESPINA 12l 8th of 14 to desert Track in maiden at Newmarket (1m, good). OVER THE MOON 18l 7th of 10 to City Gambler in auction maiden at Lingfield (7f 140yd, good to firm).
Selection: ABSOLUTE UTOPIA

3.00 MENDIP MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,565: 5f 11yd) (17 runners)

301	(17)	63	BALA 19 (Lord Margadale) H Morrison 8-11	D Harrison	80
302	(6)	6	BELLE DE NUIT 25 (R Withers) B Meehan 8-11	M Tebbutt	80
303	(5)		CD NEWSROUND (Circular Distributors Ltd) M Channon 8-11	A Culhane	–
304	(7)	0	DELPHIC WAY 25 (Miss B Swire) G Balding 8-11	S Drowne	73
305	(4)	300	FIRST VILLAGE 25 (Dr G Tsoi) J Berry 8-11	K Darley	87
306	(3)		GENEROUS EMBRACE (Blandford Thoroughbreds) D Elsworth 8-11	J Reid	–
307	(2)		GUNZELLS (Major M Wyatt) H Candy 8-11	C Rutter	–
308	(13)	00	JACKIES WEBB 63 (N Webb) B Smart 8-11	S Sanders	–
309	(1)	20202	JILTED 14 (M Hynes) R Hannon 8-11	Martin Dwyer (3)	93
310	(8)	560	LADY RALPHINA 15 (W Wood) J Bridger 8-11	A Daly (5)	–
311	(14)	04	MERCURY FALLING 19 (P Banfield) D Arbuthnot 8-11	S Whitworth	63
312	(16)		NIGHT AUCTION (Merthyr Motor Auctions) B Palling 8-11	T Sprake	–
313	(9)	4	OH HEBE 11 (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 8-11	Pat Eddery	[illegible]
314	(12)	65	ROBIN LANE 45 (Mr & Mrs G Middlebrook) I Balding 8-11	L Dettori	–
315	(11)		SARAH STOKES (Mathews Breeding and Racing) R Guest 8-11	D Holland	–
316	(15)	0	TUNDRA 109 (N Kersey) K McAuliffe 8-11	J F Egan	–
317	(10)		ZAMARRA (Mrs D Ellis) D Chappell 8-11	R Hills	–

BETTING: 2-1 Jilted, 4-1 Oh Hebe, 5-1 Gunzells, 10-1 Bala, Jackies Webb, Mercury Falling, 14-1 Belle De Nuit, Generous Embrace, Tundra, 16-1 others.

1996: DANCETHENIGHTAWAY 8-11 B Doyle (10-1) B Meehan 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

BALA 3½l 3rd of 8 to Cloudberry in auction maiden at Sandown (5f, good to firm) with MERCURY FALLING (2lb worse off) 1l 4th.
BELLE DE NUIT 4¾l 6th of 12 to Bayleaf in *maiden at Newbury* (5f, good to firm) with DELPHIC WAY further 2l 8th and FIRST VILLAGE 11l 11th. GENEROUS EMBRACE (cost 22,000 gns, foaled 27 Feb), half-sister by Caerleon Generous to useful 7f winner Villeggiatura. GUNZELLS (Feb 8) half-sister by Diesis to 7f winner Impulsif. JILTED 2l 2nd of 12 to Expect to Shine in maiden at Goodwood (6f, good to firm). OH HEBE 5¾l 4th of 10 to Nanoushka in maiden at Ascot (6f, good). ROBIN LANE 26l 5th of 7 to Bahr in maiden at Doncaster (7f, good to soft).
Selection: *JILTED (nap)*

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs R Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.30 PULTENEY HANDICAP
(£3,534: 2m 1f 34yd) (5 runners)

401	(1)	/044546	CASTLE COURAGEOUS 13 (F,G,S) (Lady Herries) Lady Herries 10-10-0	J Reid	[illegible]
402	(4)	0141143	SUDEST 19 (BF,CD,F) (R & E Hitchens) I Balding 3-9-2	L Dettori	93
403	(2)	1254-00	SHERIFF 113 (F) (T Mescall) J Hills 6-8-8	R Hills	91
404	(3)	0203463	NORNAX LAD 3 (B,F,G) (Ladywood Racing Club) M Meade 9-8-2	R Brisland (7)	[illegible]
405	(5)	/50-224	HILLSWICK 11 (M Court) J King 6-7-10	A Polli (5)	[illegible]

Long handicap: Hillswick 7-9

BETTING: Evens Sudest, 7-2 Castle Courageous, 11-2 Hillswick, 6-1 Sheriff, 7-1 Nornax Lad

1996: *CHUCKLESTONE* 13-7-10 J Quinn (11-2) J King 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

CASTLE COURAGEOUS 9¾l 6th of 8 to Maseared in handicap at Sandown (1m 6f, good). SUDEST 2¾l 3rd of 11 to High Intrigue in handicap at Sandown (1m 6f, good). SHERIFF 13l 7th of 10 to Dancing Cavalier in handicap at Nottingham (1m 6f, good). NORNAX LAD 4¾l 3rd of 9 to Music Aspects in handicap at Lingfield (2m, AW). HILLSWICK 7½l 4th of 10 to Height of Heights in handicap at Salisbury (1m 6f, good to firm).
Selection: SUDEST

4.00 LUCKINGTON LIMITED STAKES
(£2,820: 5f 11yd) (9 runners)

501	(3)	4020620	BEAU VENTURE 8 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Stacey) B Palling 9-9-6	T Sprake	[illegible]
502	(8)	0103150	*LEVELLED 35 (D,F,G) (Maygain Ltd) M Channon 3-9-6*	*P P Murphy (3)*	[illegible]
503	(2)	4202123	MOUSEHOLE 8 (D,F) (Mrs J Lockey) R Guest 5-9-6	F Bloomfield	[illegible]
504	(6)	2331200	RUNS IN THE FAMILY 13 (B,D,G,S) (G Greenwood) G McCourt 5-9-6	D Harrison	[illegible]
505	(4)	1005430	MON BRUCE 19 (BF) (Miss M Van Bakel) W Muir 3-9-2	J Reid	[illegible]
506	(9)	0041443	TINKER OSMASTON 9 (BF,C,D,F,S) (J Luff) R Hodges 6-9-3	L Dettori	[illegible]
507	(1)	505225	*TUSCAN DAWN 13 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs C Deuters) J Berry 7-9-2*	*P Roberts (5)*	[illegible]
508	(7)	203260	MARENGO 19 (J Sharp) J Akehurst 3-9-0	S Sanders	[illegible]
509	(5)	200-060	PRIDE OF HAYLING 31 (D,F) (B Broomfield) P Hedger 6-9-0	S Drowne	[illegible]

BETTING: 7-2 Tinker Osmaston, 4-1 Mousehole, 9-2 Tuscan Dawn, 5-1 Mon Bruce, 7-1 Beau Venture, [illegible] Levelled, 10-1 Runs In The Family, Marengo, 16-1 Pride Of Hayling

1996: MIDNIGHT SPELL 4-9-3 M Henry (9-2) J Hill, 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

LEVELLED 3¾l 12th of 18 to Sone Savage in handicap at Newmarket (5f, good). MOUSEHOLE 2¾l 3rd of 14 to Distinctive Dream in handicap at Windsor (5f, good) with *BEAU VENTURE (3lb worse off) 4¾l 5th.*
MON BRUCE 3¾l 7th of 11 to Shalstayholy in handicap at Sandown (5f, good to firm) with MARENGO (14lb better off) 8l 11th. TINKER OSMASTON 4¾l 3rd of 5 to Gold Edge in handicap at Chepstow (5f, good to soft). TUSCAN DAWN 4¾l 5th of 16 to Lady Sheriff in handicap at *Goodwood (5f, good to firm) with RUNS IN THE* FAMILY (3lb worse off) 2l 11th. PRIDE OF HAYLING 7½l 13th of 15 to Marsh in handicap at Salisbury (5f, good to firm).
Selection: MOUSEHOLE

4.30 *NUNNEY NURSERY HANDICAP*
(2-Y-O: £2,976: 5f 161yd) (12 runners)

601	(5)	410	KAWAFIL 35 (S) (H al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 9-7	R Hills	[illegible]
602	(2)	0010	BEN RINNES 31 (D,S) (A Pye-Jeary) R Johnson Houghton 9-5	J Reid	[illegible]
603	(4)	061	*BRIMSTONE 13 (F) (Seymour Racing Partnership) D Elsworth 9-1*	*G Duffield*	[illegible]
604	(8)	4403	ELEVENTH DUKE 20 (Lucayan Stud) R Hannon 9-1	L Dettori	[illegible]
605	(9)	302205	TAKE A TURN 14 (V) (Sheet & Roll Ltd) M Channon 9-0	P P Murphy (3)	[illegible]
606	(1)	1640	BALLET RAMBERT 31 (C,F) (Mrs J Wain) M Heaton-Ellis 8-13	R Ffrench (3)	[illegible]
607	(12)	30345	SADA 12 (H al-Maktoum) W Hern 8-13	R Hills	[illegible]
608	(7)	0540	SOMOSIERRA 14 (C Deuters) J Berry 8-12	K Darley	[illegible]
609	(11)	054	FLYING SINGER 28 (J Smith) I Balding 8-1	Martin Dwyer (3)	90
610	(10)	3400	POETTO 14 (E Landi) B Meehan 7-12	D Biggs	[illegible]
611	(6)	040	DESERT NATIVE 50 (Boardroom Syndicate) C Wall 7-12	R Mullen (5)	80
612	(3)	406	DOWNCLOSE DUCHESS 25 (R & C Tull) M Blanshard 7-10	J Quinn	80

Long handicap: Downclose Duchess 7-8

BETTING: 4-1 Eleventh Duke, 6-1 Brimstone, Sada, 7-1 Kawafil, Ben Rinnes, Take A Turn, Flying Singer, 8-1 others.

1996: MAID BY THE FIRE 9-2 Dane O'Neill (8-1) P Cole 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

KAWAFIL 15l last of 12 to Asfurah in group II Cherry Hinton Stakes at Newmarket (6f, good). BEN RINNES 13l 9th of 10 to Master Mac in nursery at Lingfield (6f, good to firm). BRIMSTONE beat *Storm Fromthe East in 10-runner auction maiden at* Sandown (5f, good to firm). ELEVENTH DUKE 1¾l 3rd of 9 to Mislead in nursery at Leicester (5f, good). TAKE A TURN 3¾l 5th of 11 to Halmanerha in nursery at Goodwood (6f, good to firm) with POETTO (1lb worse off) 5¾l 7th and SOMOSIERRA (2lb better off) 9¾l 10th. SADA 4¾l 5th of 11 to Mislead in nursery at Goodwood *(5f, good to firm).*
FLYING SINGER 8¾l 4th of 6 to Distinct Vintage in maiden at Brighton (6f, firm).
Selection: ELEVENTH DUKE

5.00 ROYAL CRESCENT HANDICAP
(£3,670: 1m 3f 144yd) (11 runners)

1	(2)	/6521-0	PROSPERO 89 (D,G) (Mrs G Scruton) Mrs A Perrett 4-9-12	A Clark	86
2	(9)	22-1103	RISING SPRAY 31 (D,F) (J Hentage) C Horgan 6-9-10	Paul Eddery	94
3	(11)	0623615	PAY HOMAGE 9 (CD,F,G) (Miss A Hall) I Balding 9-9-9	Martin Dwyer (3)	94
4	(3)	330	*ALARMIST 29 (Mrs M Sheriffe) R Charlton 3-9-8*	T Sprake	90
5	(6)	000-300	DANEGOLD 87 (V,C,F) (Circular Distributors) M Channon 5-9-7	A Eddery (7)	91
6	(4)	0061400	HAROLDON 9 (D,F,G) (Lamb Brook Associates) B Palling 8-9-5	Dane O'Neill	95
7	(10)	000-542	TWO SOCKS 26 (F) (Mrs S Marks) J King 4-9-3	D Holland	94
8	(5)	443530	PENNYS FROM HEAVEN 13 (H R H Prince Fahd Salman) H Candy 3-9-3	C Rutter	96
9	(7)	3-66212	PASSING STRANGERS 11 (D,F) (Mrs F Harris) P Harris 4-9-3	C Lowther (5)	[illegible]
10	(8)	400/001	CREDIT SQUEEZE 31 (D,F,G) (R Naylor) R Johnson Houghton 7-9-1	J Reid	91
11	(1)	0023503	*COURAGEOUS KNIGHT 11 (F) (L Kirkwood) P Hayward 5-7-10*	M Henry (3)	93

Long handicap: Courageous Knight 7-8

BETTING: 4-1 Passing Strangers, 11-2 Alarmist, Credit Squeeze, 6-1 Pay Homage, 7-1 Rising Spray, 8-1 Pennys From Heaven, 10-1 Prospero, Haroldon, 12-1 others.

1996: PISTOL 6-9-10 Paul Eddery (5-2 jt fav) C Horgan 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

PAY HOMAGE 5l 5th of 8 to Yet Again in handicap at Chepstow (1m 4f, good to firm). ALARMIST 9l 8th of 16 to Machalini in maiden at Windsor (1m 2f good to firm). TWO SOCKS ¾l 2nd of 8 to eagle *Canyon* in claimer at Leicester (1m 4f, good). PENNYS FROM HEAVEN 16l 7th of 8 to Maseared in handicap at Sandown (1m 6f, good to firm). PASSING STRANGERS 1½l 2nd of 7 to Gold Desire in apprentice handicap at Ascot (1m 4f good). CREDIT SQUEEZE beat Fourdaned ½l in amateurs handicap at Salisbury (1m 4f, good to *firm) with RISING SPRAY (3lb worse off) 2¾l 3rd.* COURAGEOUS KNIGHT (5lb better off) 4l 5th.
Selection: RISING SPRAY

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
R Charlton	18	50	36.0	C Lowther	3	7	42.9
J Berry	13	46	28.3	Pat Eddery	30	117	25.6
Miss G Kelleway	3	13	23.1	M Henry	11	49	22.4
D Elsworth	9	41	22.0	L Dettori	14	68	20.6
H Candy	4	19	21.1	R Cochrane	13	71	18.3

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Bath: 2.30 Over The Moon. Southwell: 2.45 Prerogative

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Windsor

Going: good to firm (good in straight)

2.00 (1m 3f 135yd) 1, **BRIGHSTONE** (A McGlone, 1-4 fav). 2, **Foleys Quest** (Paul Cleary, 12-1). 3, **Northern Drums** (T Sprake, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Chief *Predator (4th)*, 33 Sans Pere (5th). 5 ran. NR: High Desire. Nk, 1½l, ¾l, dist. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £1.10; £1.10, £3.20. DF: £2.70. CSF: £4.53.

2.30 (1m 67yd) 1, **DR MARTENS** (L Dettori, *6-4 fav*). 2, *Tonight's Prize* (S Sanders, 4-1). 3, **Slipstream Star** (*Martin Dwyer*, 11-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Flint Knapper (6th), 10 Saramah, 14 Bin Cyclone (4th), South China Sea, 16 Doc *Ryan's*, 20 Hidden Agenda (5th), Nomothetis, 25 Ronstan, Royale Rose, 33 Ennrinca, 50 Lengara Heights, 66 Got It Wrong Again, Max's Magic, Sheath Kefaah. 17 ran. NR: Bright Fountain. Hd, 8l, nk, 2½l, 2½l. L Cumani at Newmarket. Tote: £2.10; £1.40, £1.40, £3.20. DF: £4.00. Trio: £14.20. CSF: £6.50. After a stewards' inquiry, the result stood.

3.00 (5f 217yd) 1, **MIJANA** (L Dettori, 7-4 fav). 2, **Speedfit Too** (G Carter, 13-2). 3, **Halmahera** (S Whitworth, 11-4). ALSO *RAN: 7-2 Carrowkeel (4th)*, 7 Another Fantasy (5th), 25 Spring Fever (6th). 6 ran. Hd, 2l, 2l, 1½l, 1¾l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £3.90; £1.50, £3.30. *DF: £15.20. CSF: £12.97.*

3.30 (1m 67yd) 1, **GOLD LANCE** (L *Dettori, 4-1 fav*). 2, *Queen's Insignia* (C Rutter, 10-1). 3, **Multi Franchise** (Dane O'Neill, 16-1); 4, **Vanborough Lad** (R Ffrench, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 7 Banzhaf, 8 Ring The Chief (5th), 10 Cape Pigeon *(6th), 11 Final Warning, 14 Deevee,* Fancy Design, Glittering, 16 Coast*guards Hero, Queen of* Shannon, 20 Digpast, Windswept, 25 Tael Of Silver, 33 Show Faith, 40 Protaras Bay. 18 *ran*. 1l, nd, 1½l, ½l, hd. R O'Sullivan at Whitcombe. Tote: £5.60; £1.90, £1.70, £4.70, £1.60. DF: £31.80. Trio: £493.40. CSF: £43.59. Tricast: £593.18.

4.00 (1m 2f 7yd) 1, **SEATTLE SWING** (G Milligan, 8-1). 2, **Ocean Park** (P Doe, 6-1). 3, **Monte Cavo** (P Roberts, 3-1). *ALSO RAN: 6-4 fav Monument* (6th), 11-2 Nordic Crest (5th), 12 The Negotiator (4th). 6 ran. 1¾l, 1¾l, 2l, nk, 1l. Mrs A Perrett at Pulborough. Tote: £11.20; £3.20, £2.40. DF: £26.00. CSF: £48.87.

4.30 (1m 3f 135yd) 1, **FARRINGDON HILL** (Mr C Ranson, 7-1). 2, Tanden (*Mr O McPhail*, 5-1). 3, *Mad Militant (Mr A Wintle*, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Dauphin (4th), 3 Super Serenade, 12 General Glow (5th), 14 English Invader, Woodrising (6th), 25 *Parish Walk*, 33 Against The Clock, 50 Miss Mezzanine. 11 ran. NR: Mr Speculator. Sh hd, 2l, 1l, nk, 11l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £7.50; £2.20, £2.40, £2.00. DF: £20.30. Trio: £18.40. CSF: £41.19. Tricast: £197.57.

5.00 (5f 217yd) 1, REGAL REVOLUTION (J Lowe, 4-1). 2, **Shalad'or** (T Sprake, 4-1). 3, **Muftuffenuf** (A McGlone, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Zena (5th), 6 Eleonora D'Arborea (6th), 7 Sandy Shore (4th), 11 *Fire Goddess*, 14 *Petaling*. 8 ran. NR: Balance The Books. 1½l, hd, 2l, nk, ½l. P Walwyn at Lambourn. Tote: £3.80; £1.60, £1.40, £2.50. DF: £11.20. Trio: £183.30. CSF: £20.52. Tricast: £194.57.

Jackpot: £14,485.00.

Placepot: £111.00.

Quadpot: £79.20.

Worcester

Going: good to firm

2.15 (3m hdle) 1, **ELITE GOVERNOR** (*Chris Webb, 11-2*). 2, *Mel (J McDermott, 9-2)*. 3, **Fenian Court** (Michael Brennan, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav Star Performer (6th), 5 Longcroft (4th), 10 Polydatus (pu), *14 Arrange A Game (5th)*, 25 Lavalight (pu), Super Sarena (pu). 9 ran. 2l, 14l, 2½l, 5l, dist. N Lampard at Marlborough. Tote: £5.90; £3.10, £1.50, £1.50. DF: £13.30. Trio: £25.40. CSF: £27.92. *Tricast: £137.50.*

2.45 (2m 7f 110yd ch) 1, **SIGMA WIRELESS** (*S Wynne*, 7-1). 2, **John Roger** (S Curran, 33-1). 3, **Taylors Highflyer** (T J Murphy, 40-1). ALSO RAN: Evens fav Lady Of Mine (pu), 2 My Guy (pu), 16 Jobingo (pu), 50 Roaming *Shadow (ur)*. 7 ran. 19l, dist. T Forster at Downton. Tote: £5.40; £1.60, £6.30. DF: £67.40. CSF: £111.32.

3.15 (2m 4f) 1, **COUCHANT** (A P McCoy, 8-13 fav). 2, **Persian Mystic** (W Marston, 12-1). 3, **Romalito** (D Gallagher, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Bellrol (pu), 15-2 Fleur de Tal (pu), 14 Hippancour (5th), 25 Chicago's Best (4th). 7 ran. NR: Royal Expression. 1¼l, 12l, 14l, 13l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £1.40; £1.10, £2.60. DF: £4.70. CSF: £9.02. Tricast: £78.59.

3.45 (*2m hdle*) 1, **ROBERT'S TOY** (A P McCoy, 6-4 fav). 2, **Global Dancer** (A Maguire, 9-4). ALSO RAN: 13-8 Cooley's Valve (f). 3 ran. NR: Hatham, Tarn, Midnight Jazz. Dist. M Pipe at Wellington. *Tote*: £2.40. DF: £2.10. CSF: £4.43. Only two finished.

4.15 (2m ch) 1, **THIS IS MY LIFE** (G Bradley, 7-2). 2, **Appearance Money** (A Maguire, 13-2). 3, **Moving Force** (R *Johnson, 11-1*). *ALSO RAN: 13-8 fav* Fleet Cadet (pu), 11-4 Battery Fired (f), 50 Hemero (4th). 6 ran. 26l, 1½l, dist. C Brooks at Lambourn. Tote: £3.40; £1.50, £2.70. DF: £7.80. CSF: £21.89.

4.45 (2m hdle) 1, **RUNNING DE CERISY** (A P McCoy, 4-7 fav). 2, **Stoned** *Imaculate (A Maguire, 20-1)*; 3, **Sherna Creek** (C Llewellyn, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Le Grand Gousier (4th), 12 The Deejay (6th), 25 Good News (5th), The Green Grey, 40 The Four Isles (pu). 8 ran. 3l, sh hd, 27l, 6l, 2½l. *M Pipe at Wellington.* Tote: £1.50; £1.20, £1.20, £3.20. DF: £14.70. CSF: £16.08.

Placepot: £398.70.

Quadpot: £26.20.

☐ Martin Pipe, the trainer, teamed up with Tony McCoy, his stable jockey, to register a treble at Worcester yesterday. The pair struck with Couchant, Robert's Toy and Running De Cerisy, the last-*named an import from* France. Pipe and McCoy missed out on a four-timer when Fleet Cadet took little interest in the novices' chase.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

2.15 Shikaree. 2.45 The Toaster. 3.15 Roderick Hudson. 3.45 Demoniac. 4.15 Script. 4.45 Tango Man.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS

2.15 CROMER NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,520: 3m 110yd) (6 runners)

1	02-2	SHIKAREE 21 (V,F) M Pipe 6-11-12	A P McCoy	89
2	F121	BAYERD 11 (D,F,G,S) J O'Shea 6-11-5	Michael Brennan (3)	89
3	3-31	PROFESSOR PAGE 17 (F) T Thomson Jones 7-10-8	A Thornton	96
4	4P20	*ITSGONNASHINE 21 P Bowen 6-10-0*	*R Johnson*	–
5	-33F	MIGHTY MERC 17 (D) Mrs B Broad 9-10-0	A Dobbin	[illegible]
6	-F32	TELMAR SYSTEMS 17 (F,G) J Cullinan 8-10-0	T J Murphy	88

7-4 Shikaree, 11-4 Mighty Merc, 4-1 Bayerd, 5-1 Professor Page, 10-1 Telmar Systems, 20-1 Itsgonnashine

2.45 SKEGNESS HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,883: 2m 4f 110yd) (4)

1	3/4P	EEZ-AWAY 25 (F,S) Mrs D Haine 8-11-10	A P McCoy	85
2	1521	BRAMBLEBERRY 17 (F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 8-11-7	R Guest	[illegible]
3	3-21	THE TOASTER 10 (D,F,G,S) Miss M Milligan 10-11-6	L Wyer	98
4	P60-	PREROGATIVE 15F (B,D,F,G,S) G L Moore 7-11-5	R Johnson	90

5-4 Brambleberry, 13-8 The Toaster, 5-1 Prerogative, 8-1 Eez-Away

3.15 YARMOUTH NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,301: 2m) (9)

1	4-1	RODERICK HUDSON 25 (CD,G) J Toller 5-11-4	A P McCoy	94
2	2-1	CHOCOLATE ICE 29 (D,F) J O'Shea 4-11-1	Michael Brennan (3)	89
3	FP	BELMONT BUCCANEER 4 K Hogg 5-10-12	K Johnson	–
4	/42-	TILAAL 24F M Hammond 5-10-12	R Garritty	[illegible]
5	36-2	WESTERN GENERAL 32F (BF) Miss M Milligan 6-10-12	L Wyer	90
6	0-00	COMMUNITY SERVICE 29 J Norton 6-10-7	D Byrne	–
7	0	FRIENDLY BREEZE 11 Mrs S Smith 5-10-7	R Wilkinson (5)	–
8	0P0-	PERSIAN SUNSET 13F G Woodward 5-10-7	D Verco	–
9	6-40	SCALLYMILL 4 K Hogg 7-10-7	M Foster	–

15-8 Tilaal, 9-4 Roderick Hudson, 11-4 Western General, 11-2 Chocolate Ice, 14-1 [illegible]

3.45 BOSTON AND DISTRICT LICENSED VICTUALLERS MAIDEN HURDLE
(£2,322: 3m 110yd) (10)

1	6P-2	CHIEF GALE 62 (V) J O'Shea 5-11-2	Michael Brennan (3)	90
2	-FFF	*DEMONIAC 8 (V,D,G) M Pipe 6-11-2*	*A P McCoy*	–
3	00-6	DUNGANNON LAD 10 W G M Turner 6-11-2	N Willmington (7)	–
4	5-05	EARL GRAY 4 (B,D,F,G) A J Lockwood 10-11-2	Miss A Deniel	–
5	P33-	GENERAL PARKER 99 Miss M Milligan 6-11-2	A S Smith	[illegible]
6		GOLDLINER ALFIE Miss M Rowland 5-11-2	G Hogan (3)	–
7	61-0	SOUTHERNCROSSPATCH 27 (D,G) P Bowen 6-11-2	R Johnson	79
8	F0P-	THE SHY PADRE 150 M Pitman 6-11-2	J Culloty	–
9	*U-6P*	*MINNISAN 10 A Hobbs 4-10-12*	R Greene	97
10	353	BELLE BUSK 25 Mrs S Smith 5-10-11	R Guest	93

2-1 Demoniac, 3-1 General Parker, 7-2 The Shy Padre, 11-2 Southerncrosspatch, 7-1 Belle Busk, 8-1 Chief Gale, 20-1 others

4.15 *BRIGHTON SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE*
(£1,859: 2m 4f 110yd) (5)

1	-464	FRONTIER FLIGHT 29 (CD,F,G) Miss L Siddall 7-12-0	S Wynne	87
2	122/	PLATINI 682 (V,G) Mrs E Moscrop 6-12-0	A P McCoy	–
3	5-63	*BATTLESHIP BRUCE 31 (B) P Bowen 5-11-5*	*R Johnson*	[illegible]
4	53-3	SCRIPT 25 (F,S) J Jenkins 6-10-11	J Osborne	95
5	24-3	SHEEMORE 60 M Hammond 4-10-10	R Garritty	92

2-1 Script, 9-4 Sheemore, 7-2 Battleship Bruce, 6-1 Platini, 8-1 Frontier Flight

4.45 BLACKPOOL HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,322: 2m) (6)

1	11-6	KILNAMARTYRA GIRL 7F (CD,F,G) J Parkes 7-12-0	A Thornton	91
2	/102	LIGHTNING QUEST 25 (G) Mrs S Smith 6-11-7	R Guest	86
3	-132	BIGWHEEL BILL 29 (V,BF,CD,F,G,S) J Jenkins 8-11-5	J Osborne	[illegible]
4	F-61	SHIFTING MOON 10 (F) F Jordan 5-11-1	R Johnson	89
5	401	*TANGO MAN 29 (D,F) J O'Shea 5-10-13*	*A P McCoy*	80
6	04-P	MAGGIES LAD 62 (F) P Calver 9-10-6	L Wyer	93

5-2 Shifting Moon, 3-1 Tango Man, 4-1 Lightning Quest, Bigwheel Bill, 5-1 Kilnamartyra Girl, 33-1 Maggies Lad

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs D Haine, 4 winners from 11 runners, 36.4%; M Pipe, *19 from 66, 28.8%; P Bowen, 3 from 11, 27.3%*; Miss M Milligan, 3 from 11, 27.3%; J O'Shea, 12 from 47, 25.5%; W G M Turner, 4 from 17, 23.5%.

JOCKEYS: A McCoy, 19 winners from 68 rides, 27.9%; Michael Brennan, 6 from 23, 26.1%; R Johnson, 9 from 35, 25.7%; R Garritty, 8 from 32, 25.0%; J Osborne, 11 *from 46, 23.9%*; L Wyer, 5 from 21, 23.8%.

RAPID RACELINE
0930 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS
BATH 101 201
SOUTHWELL 102 202
IRISH 120 220
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

In Dublin in the early 1960s, my moustachio'd friend Derek Young played in a £5 a hundred game, a serious stake in those days. Thirty years on, he asked my opinion of an expensive disaster.

Dealer West — **Game all** — **Rubber bridge**

North:
♠AKQJ3
♥K109642
♦A3
♣—

West:
♠98
♥AQ7
♦K8
♣QJ10875

East:
♠75
♥J8
♦Q942
♣K9632

South:
♠10642
♥53
♦J10765
♣A4

S	W	N	E
—	1C	Double	2C
2D	3C	4C	Pass
5D	All Pass		

Contract: Five Diamonds by South. Lead: queen of clubs

The first problem is North's action over One Club. It is not a good idea to double with such a shapely hand. Double is ideal for three-suited hands, acceptable for strong one-suited hands, and also for less marked two-suited hands, e.g. ♠AQ32 ♥AKJ42 ♦A3 ♣64

The best course of action on strong two-suiters which are at least 5-5 is to start with a cue-bid. Here North should bid Two Clubs over West's One Club. If East goes Three Clubs South can venture *Three Diamonds*. Now North bids Three Hearts and South can bid Three Spades, showing he prefers spades to hearts, and so North-South can arrive at their optimum contract, Four Spades.

My second choice on the North hand would be to bid One Heart over One Club. Of course, you would feel nervous if that were passed out, but in practice when you have a lot of distribution there is usually *further* bidding. Here North would undoubtedly have had the chance *to get in his spades* on the next round of the auction.

Finally, I think North should have bid Three Hearts *over Three Clubs*. Four Clubs sounded too much like a cue-bid in support of diamonds (though South should not have jumped to Five Diamonds). Three Hearts is a strong call, but doesn't guarantee spades. It's close whether South should pass it or bid Three Spades.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge *Monday to Friday* in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Anand wins

Viswanathan Anand has won the Biel tournament with 7/10, ahead of Anatoly Karpov on 6½ and Boris Gelfand on 5½. Karpov's chances of winning the event died with this loss in the eighth round.

White: Joel Lautier
Black: Anatoly Karpov
Biel, July 1997

Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	Nc3	dxe4
4	Nxe4	Nd7
5	Ng5	Ngf6
6	Bd3	e6
7	N1f3	Bd6
8	Qe2	h6
9	Ne4	Nxe4
10	Qxe4	c5
11	0-0	Nf6
12	Qh4	cxd4
13	Re1	Bd7
14	Nxd4	Qa5
15	Be3	Kf8
16	Bf4	Bxd4
17	Qxd4	Rc8
18	Nf3	Ke7
19	Qg3	Qb4
20	Ne5	g5
21	c4	Rhd8
22	Qh3	h5
23	Qe3	g4
24	a3	Qxb2
25	Rab1	Qxa3
26	Nxd7	Qc5
27	Nxd8	Qxe3
28	Rxe3	Kxd8
29	Rxb7	a5
30	Ra7	Rc5
31	f4	gxf3
32	Rxf3	Ne8
33	Rf7	Nc7
34	Rh7	Be8
35	Kf2	Kc8
36	Rh8	Kd7
37	Ke3	e5
38	Be2	Bg6
39	Bxh5	Bf5
40	Be2	Be6
41	h4	Kd6
42	Rh6	Ke7
43	h5	Black resigns

Veteran wins

Former world champion Vassily Smyslov, 76, demonstrated superb form by becoming the top scorer in the veterans v women tournament in Copenhagen.

White: Vassily Smyslov
Black: Xie Jun
Copenhagen 1997

Four Knights Defence

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Nc3	Nf6
4	Bb5	Bb4
5	0-0	0-0
6	d3	d6
7	Bg5	Bxc3
8	bxc3	Qe7
9	Re1	Nd8
10	d4	Ne6
11	Bc1	c5
12	a4	Rd8
13	Bf1	Nc7
14	h3	Bd7
15	g3	b5
16	Nh4	bxa4
17	Nf5	Bxf5
18	exf5	Ncd5
19	Ra3	Qc7
20	dxe5	dxe5
21	Qe2	Rab8
22	Bg5	h6
23	Bxf6	Nxf6
24	Qxe5	Qxe5
25	Rxe5	Rd2
26	Rxa4	Rxc2
27	Rxc5	Rbb2
28	Rc8+	Kh7
29	Rxa7	Rxf2
30	Rxf7	h5
31	Rf8	Kh6
32	h4	Rxf5
33	Bd3	Black resigns

British championship

The Smith & Williamson British Championship continues at Hove. Contenders include Michael Adams, Aaron Summerscale, Matthew Sadler, Andrew Martin, Mark Hebden, Tony Miles, Tony Kosten, Andrew Ledger and defending champion Chris Ward.

☐ *Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.*

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ALGOR
a. An Algerian gorilla
b. Cold
c. A contagious disease

ARYANIZE
a. To have blue eyes and blonde hair
b. Animal testing
c. To make Aryan in language

ARSENIC
a. A dedicated Arsenal football fan
b. A chemical element
c. A scenic route

BIFFIN
a. A muffin
b. To take charge
c. A baked apple

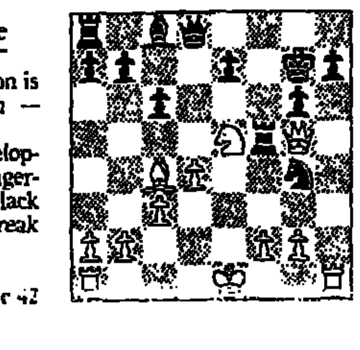
Answers on page 42

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Sherwin — Denker, US 1968.

White has a lead in development and has opening dangerous lines against the black king. How did he now break through?



Solution on page 42

FOOTBALL

Palace and Barnsley settle in to new home

By Russell Kempson

AS NEW boys on the FA Carling Premiership block last weekend, Barnsley and Crystal Palace were almost submerged beneath an avalanche of attention. How would Barnsley perform in their first top-flight match in the club's 110-year history? How would Attilio Lombardo, Palace's £1.6 million Italian, react to his first taste of life outside Serie A? A footballing nation waited.

As often happens, the hype overshadowed reality and proved rather more palatable than the end product. Barnsley went 1-0 ahead against West Ham United at Oakwell, but lost 2-1. No fairy tale there. Palace beat Everton 2-1, with Lombardo scoring one goal and creating the other, yet raised only a few ripples of excitement.

Manchester City yesterday completed the free transfer of Jason van Blerk, the Australia defender, from Millwall. Stockport County have beaten Bolton Wanderers and Nottingham Forest in the race to sign Vassilios Kalogeracos, another Australian player, for £150,000 from Floreat Athena, the Australian club.

This evening, the former Nationwide League first division sides meet at Selhurst Park, fresh from lessons learnt and with the weight of expectation perhaps temporarily lifted. Palace return home with three points already earned and will hope for more of the same; Barnsley again face opposition from the capital, with renewed vigour, and will look for improvement.

"Winning on Saturday will have done wonders for the players," Ray Lewington, the Palace coach, said yesterday. "They now realise they deserve to be in the Premiership, that they deserve to be on the same pitch as all the others.

"We now know we can compete, but we've got to keep working really hard all year round. We won't get away with making silly mistakes as we may have done sometimes in the first division. Barnsley are tough — we drew twice with them last season — but we want to show our fans what we can do."

Steve Coppell, the Palace manager, spent much of yesterday trying to strengthen his squad with the £2 million signing of Neil Emblen, the Wolverhampton Wanderers defender. Although it was unlikely that the deal would go ahead in time for Emblen to play tonight, it emphasises Coppell's determination to make sure Palace's stay in the Premiership is anything but brief.

Danny Wilson, the Barnsley manager, has similar aims, but realises his task is considerable. "We gave the ball away too easily against West Ham," he said. "We've got to keep it longer to give us a platform to build on.

"Perhaps a few players were affected by all the hype and all the ballyhoo, perhaps their concentration suffered a bit, but it's something they're going to have to get used to."

Neil Redfearn, the Barnsley goalscorer, said: "We wanted a good start and, unfortunately, it didn't materialise. It's only one game, but we've got to learn quickly."

Ronny Rosenthal, the Tottenham Hotspur striker, joined Watford, of the Nationwide League second division, on a free transfer yesterday. Rosenthal, an Israel international, moved to White Hart Lane from Liverpool in January 1994 for £250,000.

"Ronny has played and succeeded at the highest level," Graham Taylor, the Watford manager, said. "The fact that we have recruited a player from the Premiership is a sign of our ambition."

Borussia Dortmund, the European Cup-winners, are to hold talks with Alessandro Moggi, Fabrizio Ravanelli's agent, later this month, while Everton, who tried to buy the Middlesbrough forward during the summer, also appear to have renewed their interest.

"It's a matter of sitting around and thrashing out the details with Dortmund," Moggi said. "It's no secret they want him. Fabrizio could stay put, although I doubt it, but our discussions with Everton remain open."

Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, is hoping to complete the exchange deal between David Unsworth and Danny Williamson today. Unsworth, the Everton centre back, should go to West Ham for £1 million and Williamson, a midfield player, would move to Merseyside.

Smith chases American dream

DES JENSON

Smith wants to return to Britain after her four years in the United States but a career in Japan or Norway beckons

Sarah Forde investigates why the most promising player in English women's football could be lost to the United States

When Ted Copeland, the England women's football coach, draws up his squad for his team's first 1999 World Cup qualifying match, against Germany next month, one regular name, Kelly Smith, is likely to be missing — not because of injury, but because Smith, 18, has flown out to the United States to begin a college soccer scholarship and has, therefore, placed a question mark over her England career.

Since making her debut for England three days after her seventeenth birthday, Smith has jinked down the left wing for her country another 12 times, tormenting her weary markers. Copeland insists that the Football Association would pay to fly Smith back to Europe for England matches, but the college she is about to join could veto such action. It has, after all, offered her a *four-year scholarship* so that she plays in its team.

"I think the college will not release her for the game. If she is available, it will be a bonus," Copeland said. "A lot of girls want to go to America, it seems glamorous, but I don't know how high the quality of coaching is."

However, if Smith had stayed in England, she would be looking for a job, having just completed a diploma in sport science. The move to the United States, however, was always in her plans since she was spotted three years ago. "There are no jobs for me here in Britain," she said. "I want to go to America for the experience. I get to train every day and I get a free education."

Smith's trail to the United States started in 1994 while playing for her first club, Pinner Park, in a tournament in Watford, her home town. Pinner Park set about destroying a touring team from the United States in the final, with Smith the orchestrator. A scout with the visitors was impressed and *found* Bernard Smith, her father, on the touchline, who recalled: "He told me he had contacts with lots of universities. Seven or eight contacted Kelly personally and others tried to get hold of her through her clubs, Wembley and Arsenal."

Two coaches flew from the United States to talk to Smith, but the level-headed teenager took her time in making her decision. "They told me how big their colleges and football leagues were, but one of them wanted me to drop everything right there and go to America," she said. "I wanted to stay and finish my diploma in sport science, which Betty-Ann Kempf, the coach from Seton Hall College, understood." After that initial visit, Kempf kept in touch and Seton Hall College, in South Orange, near New York, will have a team parading Smith's skills over the next four years.

> 'I don't want to see her go, but there is nothing for her here'

Arsenal, whom Smith has supported from a very young age, is the club that will mourn her loss. She joined from Wembley in January and helped to steer Arsenal towards the Premier National League championship. It is the best-equipped women's football club in the country, with a coach employed by the same Highbury organisation that runs the FA Carling Premiership side, and, on signing, the players are given a pair of boots and club tracksuits. However, all players still have to make their own way to home matches and pay towards the cost of hotels for away trips, having trained on two evenings a week.

Smith will be bombarded with college kit and four pairs of training shoes on her arrival at Seton Hall. The squad occasionally travels by air to matches in other states and will train for three hours each day after morning classes. All Smith's accommodation and food is paid for and she will leave with a qualification in Health and Physical Education. Smith's father conceded: "I do not want to see her go, but there is nothing keeping her here. I'll miss watching her play on Sundays. I have been doing it for years."

Vic Akers, her coach at Arsenal, believes it is a huge disappointment for football in this country that young players such as Smith are going to the United States. "We need a similar situation here where players can continue their education and football together," Akers said. "It's a problem that needs to be addressed."

Smith wants to return to play for Arsenal after her four years abroad, but she will probably, at some stage, be offered a professional contract in Norway or Japan, where female footballers can earn up to £60,000 a year. If such a situation does arise, England's most promising young woman footballer might never be seen playing on English turf again.

EQUESTRIANISM

Lampard is beneficiary as Skelton is dropped

By Jenny MacArthur

NICK SKELTON intends to put Tinka's Boy, his brilliant young horse, on the market after being dropped from the British showjumping team for the first time for 12 years. The team for the European championships, announced yesterday, consists of Michael Whitaker, Robert Smith and Di Lampard — who earned their places through the new trials system — with John Whitaker and Geoff Billington being the selectors' two nominees.

Although the rules for selection were clearly laid down at the start of the season, Skelton, 39, feels let down. "The selection procedure's a joke," he said. "I've got one of the best young horses I've ever had, but there's no room for him in the team. He's going on the market." Skelton has helped to win three gold medals, two silver medals and a bronze during his illustrious career with the Britain team.

After a double clear on Tinka's Boy at the Gijon Nations' Cup earlier this month — together with second place in the second of the four trials — Skelton thought he had done enough for selection, but his decision to miss the third trial, at Peterborough, meant that he did not have three counting scores.

"I wouldn't have jumped there even if I'd gone — the ground was rock hard," he said. "If we're going to have selection trials, the courses and the going should all be up to international standard."

David Broome, the chairman of the British Show Jumping Association, admitted the new system — where the top three partnerships from the four trials gained automatic team selection — needs some "ironing out", but said that trials are here to stay. "They've opened up the sport at the top end — which is what we intended," he said. "They've been very good for the overall spirit of the sport."

Di Lampard's Abbervail Dream, owned by Robert Verburgt, is the most conspicuous beneficiary of the new *system*. Verburgt bought the ten-year-old gelding after his wife, Dina, dreamt a horse they owned won a medal for Britain. A long search ensued until Abbervail Dream was found, as a three-year-old, in the yard of Noel Cawley in Co Kildare. The horse was left out of the team for Atlanta last year, but the new trials made it impossible for the selectors to overlook his claims.

GREAT BRITAIN TEAM (European championships in Mannheim, Aug 28-31): M Whitaker (Virtual Village Ashley and Two Step), J Whitaker (Virtual Village Welham and Grannusch), G Billington (Virtual Village It's Otto), R Smith (Senator Tees Hanauer and Orthos), D Lampard (*Abbervail Dream*).

IN BRIEF

Bradbury costs Salford £50,000

SALFORD Reds rugby league club yesterday completed the signing for £50,000 of David Bradbury after a transfer tribunal, which freed the second-row forward to leave Oldham Bears for less than the £200,000 that they had been demanding for him (Christopher Irvine writes).

Bradbury toured New Zealand with Great Britain last year, but he has missed most of the season because of his dispute at Oldham. He is anxious to stake a claim for inclusion in the international series against Australia in November.

Andy Gregory, the Salford coach and a contender for the Great Britain coaching position, said: "David is a class player and we have four league games and the Premiership left for him to push for a Test place."

Martin Crompton, the Oldham captain, is likely to miss the rest of his side's battle against relegation from the Stones Super League after he hurt an ankle in the 36-26 defeat at St Helens.

Good start

Golf: Philip Rowe, 18, runner-up in the English Amateur Championship this month and already selected to make his senior international debut, made a confident start to his bid for the British Boys Open title at Saunton.

Rowe, from Cornwall, eased his way into round two of the championship with a 4 and 2 win over Greg Hyde, from Wath. There was a surprise when Scott Godfrey, an English junior international, from St Enodoc, went down after six extra holes to Jamie Hall, from Hampshire. Godfrey had been two up with two to play.

High scorers

Rugby union: England's schoolboys continued their victorious tour of Australia when they beat New South Wales Combined High Schools 64-5 in Sydney. Lee Best, the Durham wing, who is contracted to Richmond, scored three of their 11 tries, with two for Jonathan Wilkinson, the Lord Wandsworth's College centre, who kicked two conversions and a penalty goal.

Newcomers

Cricket: Northamptonshire are expected to give debuts to Toby Blain, 21, a wicketkeeper, and Jason Brown, an off spinner, for the fixture with Pakistan A at Wantage Road today. David Roberts and Tim Walton, the batsmen, have joined a mounting casualty list.

▸ REWARDING TIMES ◂

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THE TIMES

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 6 Kansas City 4; Texas 7 Cleveland 6; Detroit 4 Toronto 2; New York Yankees 9 Minnesota 6; Oakland 4 Milwaukee 3 (first game) Milwaukee 9 Oakland 5 (second game); Baltimore 4 Anaheim 3; Chicago White Sox 2 Seattle 1

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Florida 4 Atlanta 2 (10inns); San Francisco 6 Montreal 3 (12inns); Houston 11 New York Mets 8; Cincinnati 8 Los Angeles 1; Philadelphia 8 St Louis 0; San Diego 4 Chicago 3; Colorado 8 Pittsburgh 7

BARCELONA: Intercontinental Cup: Final: Japan 11 Cuba 2.

BOWLS

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA: Women's national championships: Fours Championship: Second round: Seaton Burn (A Lennie) bt Hatfield (K Havord) 24-20, Lincoln Railway (P Strong) bt Park Road, Hull (S Tomlinson) 23-16, March Conservatives (D Miller) bt Dalston (S Clark) 25-14, Rochford (J Tann) bt Whitnash (M Tims) 22-21, Cowes (P Proud) bt Alderbury (R Speech) 18-15; Henlow (J Smith) bt Cemetery Road, Scunthorpe (L Fotheringham) 21-17; Field Place, Worthing (W Davies) bt Whaddon, Cheltenham (J Sheward) 19-13; Folkestone (M Hayes) bt Grampound (J Thomas) 23-15; Milton Park, Hampshire (R Darling) bt Maulden (S Hadaway) 19-15, Lowestoft Railway bt Southey (P Mussell) 33-12; Westminster Brackley (M Gearey) bt Carlton Conway (S Offler) 25-17, Oxford C and C (I Molyneux) bt Street (S Nicholls) 17-15, Bush Hill Park, Middlesex (C Dennison) bt Purton, Wiltshire (J Comley) 18-17, Balcock (J Ward) bt Shepshed Town (D Wooster) 26-16. Corrected result: Mother and daughter championship: Final: A and C Gowshall (Waltham Park, Grimsby) bt I Gill and L Ryan (Magdalen Park) 13-15

CRICKET

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of two): Falkland (Newbury): Berkshire 200-6 (G E Loveday 70, J Hodgson 83 not out, P R Clifford 4-54) and 49-0; Wiltshire 214-3 (D A Winter 80, J L Taylor 71). Slough: Buckinghamshire 142 (A Akhtar 5-30), Cambridgeshire 178-8 (J S G Norman 70). St Austell: Cornwall 189-4 (G M Thomas 87) and 43-1; Oxfordshire 192-9 (S V Laudat 62, B C A Ellison 53; A C H Seymour 7-62). Lakenham: Norfolk 184 (C Amos 66) and 83-0 (C J Rogers 55 not out); Suffolk 114 (P J Bradshaw 5-22). Wellington: Dorset 238 (A Willows 78; A B Byram 6-76), Shropshire 234-2 (J B R Jones 105 not out, I R Payne 63 not out). Jesmond: Lincolnshire 200-8 and 30-1, Northumberland 225-3 (T W Adcock 108 not out)

ABBOT ALE CUP: Semi-finals: West Bromwich Dartmouth 185-8 Harrogate 187-4; Eastbourne v Exmouth — no play due to rain.

APS TWO COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Bury St Edmunds 283-5 Sudbury 238-8.

CAMBRIDGE: National Association of Young Cricketers one-day Cup: Cambridgeshire 191-9 (R Williams 101, C Leal 4-35); Yorkshire 192-0 (J Sykes 99 not out, S Lewis 64 not out). Yorkshire beat Cambridgeshire by ten wickets. Cheshire 172-9 (J Comford 73, R Kareem 5-34); Nottinghamshire 173 (B Sheppard 100 not out, R Nicholson 72 not out). Nottinghamshire beat Cheshire by ten wickets.

SCHOOLS MATCH: Croydon Schools under-15 195-7; Doncaster Schools under-15 196-6 (W Graca 59). Doncaster beat Croydon by four wickets

FOOTBALL

Sunday's late results

WORLD CUP: Concacaf qualifying zone: Final group: Costa Rica 0 El Salvador 0 (in San Jose)

GERMAN LEAGUE: Hertha Berlin 2 Borussia Mönchengladbach 2

ARGENTINIAN LEAGUE: Boca Juniors 4 Rosario Central 3

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Fluminense 1 Portuguesa 1; Goias 2 São Paulo 1; Bragantino 2 Santos 1; Bahia 1 Guarani 1; Criciuma 0 Uniao São João 0; Juventude 1 Coritiba 0; Botafogo 3 Atletico Paranaense 1; Parana 1 Palmeiras 1; Internacional 3 Vitoria 1; America 3 Gremio 3.

VASSA, Finland: International under-16 tournament: Group match: England 2 Denmark 1. Final: England 3 Norway 2.

GOLF

GRAND BLANC, Michigan: PGA Buick Open: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 273: V Singh (Fiji) 67, 73, 67, 66. 277: R Cochran 68, 69, 73, 67; T Byrum 72, 68, 70, 67; J Ozaki (Japan) 67, 71, 70, 69; B Fabel 69, 67, 70, 71; E Els (SA) 68, 63, 72, 74; C Strange 72, 66, 68, 71. 278: T Woods 72, 68, 70, 68; D Forsman 68, 67, 73, 70; R Mediate 70, 71, 67, 70. 279: L Wadkins 67, 69, 74, 69; P Stewart 72, 65, 72, 70; R Estes 70, 70, 69, 70; B Gaiberger 69, 71, 69, 70.

AGAWAM, Massachusetts: LPGA Friendly's Classic: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 277: D Richard 72, 70, 68, 67. 278: C Johnson 68, 72, 70, 68. 280: B Burton 73, 70, 69, 68. 283: P Hurst 70, 69, 73, 71. 284: D Dormann 73, 72, 69, 70; B King 73, 69, 69, 73. 285: A Fruhwirth 70, 75, 70, 70; N Harvey (Can) 73, 68, 69, 75. 286: E Klein 73, 72, 71, 70. 287: K Webb (Aus) 69, 72, 75, 71; A Finney 71, 73, 70, 73; C Mockett 72, 71, 71, 73. 288: D Killeen 74, 71, 69, 74; Lu Bernvenuti (Br) 73, 71, 70, 74.

GLIDING

LASHAM, Hampshire: National Standard Class: First day (210km tri: 1 completion of 48): 1, M Young (LS8) 64.6kph, 580pts; 2, G Metcalfe (ASW24) 199.4km, 539; 3 equal, E Johnston (LS8) and R Cheetham (LS8) 199.2, 538. Second day (258km tri: 45 completions of 48): 1, Johnston 95.8, 1,000; 2, B Marsh (LS8) 92.6, 953; 3, R Browne (LS8) 92.3, 948. Leading overall positions: 1, Johnston 1,538; 2, Marsh 1,485; 3, M Wells (LS8) 1479

HOCKEY

HARARE: Women's World Cup qualifying tournament: Semi-finals: South Africa 2 Scotland 1; New Zealand 2 India 1 (aet). Play-offs: Ninth place: Spain 4 Japan 0. 11th place: Canada 5 Zimbabwe 0

MOTOR RACING

LEXINGTON, Ohio: Miller 200 CART Indy-car race: 1, A Zanardi (It, Reynard-Honda) 83 laps completed, 1hr 41min 16.682 sec; 2, G Moore (Can, Reynard-Mercedes) at 4.871secs; 3, B Rahal (US, Reynard-Ford); 4, R Boesel (Br, Reynard-Ford); 5, J Vasser (US, Reynard-Honda); 6, G de Ferran (Br, Reynard-Honda); 7, M Gugelmin (Br, Reynard-Mercedes); 8, M Andretti (US, Swift-Ford); 9, S Pruett (US, Reynard-Ford); 10, A Ribeiro (Br, Lola-Honda); 11, D Franchitti (GB, Reynard-Mercedes) all same lap; 12, P Johnstone (US, Reynard-Honda) 82.

ORIENTEERING

GRIMSTAD, NORWAY: World championships: First day: Classic race qualification (53 starters in each heat, 30 to qualify): Men (8km): Heat one: 1, P Thoresen (Nor) 59min 11sec; 2, C Jorgensen (Den) 60:14; 3, J Salmi (Fin) 60:22; 9, S Hale (GB, Perth) 62:53; 23, S Nicholson (GB, Forth Valley) 66:50; 46, B Edwards (Ire, Warnor). Heat two: 1, T Karpinnen (Fin) 57:13; 2, J Martensson (Swe) 57.19; 3, A Mogensen (Den) 57:35; 15, S Palmer (GB, Walton) 61.50; 18, J Duncan (GB, Edinburgh Univ) 64 10. Women (5km): Heat one: 1, A Pamonen (Fin) 42:08; 2, R-M Kolkkala (Fin) 42:09; 3, M-L Romanens (Switz) 43:31; 14, J James (GB, S Yorkshire) 50:28; 22, U Creagh (Ire, Merseyside) 52:09; 27, L Campbell (GB, Eryri) 54.44

RIFLE SHOOTING

BISLEY: National smallbore championships: Queen Alexandra Cup (*County Teams*): 1, Surrey 2,378pts; 2, Bedfordshire 2,352; 3, Sussex 2,350. Club Teams: 1, Vauxhall Motors 1,184; 2, GEC Coventry 1,172. Individual: 1, T Elson (Middlesex) 404/12; 2, M Bagot (Hampshire) 404/11; 3, D Brickles (Essex) 403. Free Rifle Cup (British three-position championship): 1, R Law (Alloa) 1,127; 2, P Hornebel (Ger) 1,128; 3, M Janowski (Ger) 1,126. Alaska Plaque (British junior): S Kalinowska (Swindon) 1,205. County Teams: 1, Hampshire 4,379; 2, Yorkshire 4,147. Club teams: 1, Ham and Petersham 3,306; 2, Chobham 3,277; 3, Basingstoke 3,198. Spire Trophy (Women standard rifle): R Spicer (Birmingham) 562. Lows Trophy (Junior women): Spicer 562. GPO rifle club Trophy (Weekend Aggregate Class X): 1, N Davis (Wimbledon Park) 982; 2, T Lincoln (Bedford) 981; 3, C Harris (South Wales) 980. *South Africa Trophy (Class A)*: 1, *M Steyn* (NSRA) 971; 2, H Creevy (Port St Mary) 970; 3, S Billinghurst (Down Hatherley) 968. Wingrove Cup (Class B): 1, J Taylor-Bells (Framlingham) 970; 2, P Steyn (NSRA) 968; 3, G Hillier (London Univ) 964. Elles Shield (Class C): 1, L Corkett (Bletchley) 971; 2, D Lee (Keighley) 968; 3, A Rysdale (Oxford) 962.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES SUPER LEAGUE: Bradford Bulls 22 Leeds Rhinos 8; Sheffield Eagles 24 Wigan Warriors 22; St Helens 36 Oldham Bears 26.

AUSTRALIAN SUPER LEAGUE: Canterbury *Bulldogs 40 Auckland Warriors 18.*

ACADEMY CHAMPIONSHIP: Bradford 16 Leeds 50; Warrington 21 Salford 16.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: New South Wales Combined High Schools 5 England 18-group schools 64 (at Concord Oval, Sydney).

SPEEDWAY

ELITE LEAGUE: Coventry 52 Bradford 38; Peterborough 42 Wolverhampton 47; Eastbourne 55 Poole 35

PREMIER LEAGUE: Newcastle 48 Berwick 42; Glasgow 51 Hull 39.

AMATEUR LEAGUE: Belle Vue Colts 33 Berwick 38; Oxford Cubs 38 St Austell 39; Peterborough 43 Ryde 25; Mildenhall 47 Oxford Cubs 30; Lathallan 42 Belle Vue Colts 36; Peterborough 57 Shuttle Cubs 21.

SEVERN BRIDGE TROPHY: Second leg: Newport 48 Exeter 30 (Newport win 82-73 on agg).

TENNIS

MASON, Ohio: Men's tournament: Final: P Sampras (US) bt T Muster (Austria) 6-3, 6-4.

MANHATTAN BEACH: Women's tournament: Final: Seles bt Davenport 5-7, 7-5, 6-4.

SOUTHSEA: Satellite tournament: Men: Semi-finals: C Wilkinson (GB) bt A Parmar (GB) 6-4, 6-4; T Mitchell (Aus) bt O Freelove (GB) 6-3, 7-6. Final: Wilkinson bt Mitchell 7-6, 6-0. Women: Semi-finals: N Egorova (Russ) bt J Lutrova (Russ) 6-0, 6-7, 6-0; Gabai bt T Musgrave (Aus) 3-6, 6-3, 7-6. Final: Egorova bt Gabia 6-3, 6-3

SOUTHSEA: LTA Reebok Tour: Men: Final: N Weal (Hants) bt S Jackson (Cheshire) 6-4, 6-2. Women: Semi-finals: I Wyatt (Oxford) bt J Osman (Sussex) 7-6, 6-4; T Callow (Middlesex) bt A Napier (Surrey) 6-4, 7-5. Final: Callow bt Wyatt 6-3, 6-3

VOLLEYBALL

MACAU: Women's World Grand Prix: Russia bt China 3-1; Italy bt United States 3-2; China bt United States 3-0; Russia bt Italy 3-0; China bt Italy 3-0; Russia bt United States 3-0. *Final positions*: 1, Russia; 2, China; 3, Italy; 4, United States.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*

Uefa Cup
Second qualifying round, first leg
FC Tirol Innsbruck v Celtic (8.0)
Trabzonspor v Dundee Utd (6.0)

FA Carling Premiership
Crystal Palace v Barnsley (7.45)

Coca-Cola Cup
First round, first leg
* Blackpool v Man City
Bournemouth v Torquay (7.45)
Brentford v Shrewsbury (7.45)
Bristol City v Bristol Rovers (7.45)
Cambridge Utd v West Bromwich (7.45)
Cardiff v Southend
Chester v Carlisle
Colchester v Luton (7.45)
Crewe v Bury (7.45)
Darlington v Notts County (7.45)
Gillingham v Birmingham (7.45)
Huddersfield v Bradford (7.45)
Lincoln v Burnley (7.45)
Macclesfield v Hull (7.45)
Mansfield v Stockport (7.45)
Northampton v Millwall (7.45)
Norwich v Barnet (7.45)
Oldham v Grimsby (7.45)
Oxford Utd v Plymouth (7.45)
Peterborough v Portsmouth (7.45)
Port Vale v York (7.45)
QPR v Wolverhampton (7.45)
Reading v Swansea (7.45)
Rochdale v Stoke (8.0)
Rotherham v Preston (7.45)
Scarborough v Scunthorpe
Tranmere v Hartlepool (7.45)
Walsall v Exeter (7.45)
Wigan v Chesterfield (7.45)
Wrexham v Sheffield Utd
Wycombe v Fulham (7.45)

Scottish League Cup
First round
Ayr v Queen's Park
Berwick v Montrose
Clyde v Raith
Cowdenbeath v Clydebank
Dumbarton v Falkirk
East Fife v St Mirren (7.45)
Forfar v East Stirling
Greenock Morton v Albion
Hamilton v Partick
Stenhousemuir v Livingston

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Crystal Palace v Swindon (at Plough Lane, 2.0); Watford v Wimbledon (*at Northwood FC*); West Ham United v Queens Park Rangers (at Southend United FC, 7.45)

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Everton v Nottingham Forest (7.0). First division: Coventry City v Bolton Wanderers (7.0)

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Cray v Greenwich, Crockenhill v Beckenham; Faversham v Deal, Slade Green v Swanley Furness; Thamesmead v Chatham, Whitstable Town v Tunbridge Wells

HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Tennents Highland League Cup: Wick Academy v Clachnacuddin (8.0)

CRICKET

NatWest Trophy
Semi-final
10.30, 60 overs
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Glamorgan

Tour match
11.0, 50 overs
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Pakistan A

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of four): Oakham School: Leicestershire v Yorkshire.

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (first day of two): Bowdon: Cheshire v Dorset. Bovey Tracey: Devon v Oxfordshire

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: EWBA national championships (at Leamington)

SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Stoke v Isle of Wight (7.30). Amateur League: St Austell v Oxford (7.30)

TENNIS: Satellite tournament (at Worthing)

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See Mercury's ad on page 24.

CRICKET

Glamorgan in need of Waqar's thunder

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

LIKE everything else in cricket, the NatWest Trophy is set for radical change, but the start of its remodelling was in place well before the emergence of the MacLaurin blueprint. This year, the semi-finals are, for the first time, to be played on consecutive days, starting with the visit of Glamorgan to an overheated Chelmsford today.

Cricket is having to compete as a television sport. That is the hard truth behind many of the upper-level proposals in the grand plan of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and it provides the logic for separating these showpiece games. Previously, one or other semi-final received short shrift on live television, but both can now be screened in full. Better coverage means potentially higher fees.

Tom Moody, the Worcestershire captain, is ready to contemplate retirement, especially if he is offered the chance to replace David Houghton, the outgoing coach at New Road. Moody, who doubles-up as the Western Australia captain, will be 32 in October and has hinted he may end his playing days within the next two years.

There will be more refinements to come — and not only in the planned expansion of the tournament to 60 teams in 1999 and the welcome initiative that will give the minor counties a guaranteed home draw against their seniors. In future, if the finances of the game are to be the prime consideration, the semi-finals may also be staged on neutral grounds capable of holding many more than the 5,000 who have obtained tickets for Chelmsford.

Glamorgan have raised the subject of independent venues and it is worthy of debate. Only a few hundred of their large and vocal band of supporters have been allocated seats today, meaning the atmosphere will not be all that it might have been. Essex, who are traditionally averse to almost every change, cannot be expected to support this one just yet, though.

They will start as favourites today, if only through their familiarity with the big occasion. In the 20 years since Glamorgan's one visit to a Lord's final — they lost to Middlesex in what was then the Gillette Cup — Essex have contested seven knockout finals. They know the territory and the fact that they have won only two of the seven will make them even more determined.

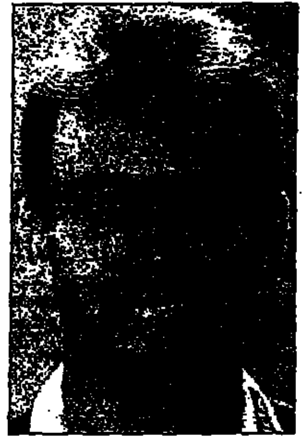
Against this can be set the fact that Essex's season has gone into decline, coincidentally in the three weeks since Graham Gooch's retirement. Defeats in both the championship and the Sunday league at Canterbury in recent days mean that the NatWest is their best chance of winning a trophy.

Injuries have been affecting their attack and both Mark Ilott and Ashley Cowan missed the four-day game in Kent. They will be back in action today, Ilott having recovered from a sore heel and Cowan from general wear and tear, but they will need to be at their best to contain the most prolific batting side in the land.

Robert Croft's England place is in grave doubt, but at least the four-day finish at Trent Bridge saved him and Nasser Hussain from the absurd imposition of rushing directly to a semi-final. Croft will have his usual high profile for Glamorgan and perhaps the occasion will help restore his spirits.

For Glamorgan to win, however, Waqar Younis will probably have to cause some disarray in the Essex upper order, where the captain, Paul Prichard, will have a late fitness test on the hamstring strain that caused him to use a runner for much of his defiant double-century at Canterbury.

The romantic result would be a win for Glamorgan, nourishing their improbable dreams of a championship and knockout double. Tomorrow, similarly, the heart will urge Sussex to victory at Edgbaston. The head, however, says Essex and Warwickshire will win through to what may be the last 60-over NatWest final on September 6.



Illot: recovered

Master class: Dermot Reeve, the Somerset coach, gives Lucy Pearson the benefit of his expert knowledge during a training session with the England women's cricket squad at Wellington College, Berkshire, yesterday. The former England all-rounder was helping to fine-tune preparations for the one-day series against South Africa, which starts on Friday in Bristol (Sarah Potter writes).

It was a session instigated by the England coach, Megan Lear. A long-time admirer of Reeve's combative cricket style, which was so successfully employed during his reign at Warwickshire, she believes mental toughness is vital at international level. "I read his autobiography and was impressed with his attitude," she said. "You only have to look at his record to see he's the king of motivation. I wanted to get some of that strength of mind and openess into our squad."

Reeve was already familiar with women's cricket. His fiancée plays for Taunton and he claims her improved batting average is due to his coaching. He has also coached the Western Australia women's team during regular trips to Perth to visit his daughter. "It is about enjoying the big occasion and about how the players can get the best out of themselves on the big day," he said. "I talked about running between the wickets, communication and a few disciplines for everyone, but it was mainly on the psychological side."

Photograph: Peter Trievnor

MacLaurin report gains positive reaction

Minor Counties Cricket
by Michael Austin

SOME believe that the Minor Counties Cricket Association (MCCA) is a parochial body, playing "jolly" games around the English shires, remote from the Test circuit and without a care for broader issues. Not so. Yesterday, in response to the *Raising the Standard* document unveiled last week by Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), its own, unofficial, way forward was revealed.

Derek Bridge, the president of MCCA, said that, pending his committee's forthcoming rubber-stamp, three of each county's nine two-day matches next summer would follow, experimentally at least, Lord MacLaurin's recommended format of 120-overs, one-innings contests instead of games of four innings over the same duration.

Yesterday, at six delightful venues, this verdict might have been the cue for the watching diehards to reach for a large drink. At Jesmond, Northumberland took the opposite view during their match against Lincolnshire.

Bill Peacock, the chairman, said: "I cannot say whether playing a longer game will foster England teams of tomorrow, but we have to give the blueprint a go. If we do not try it, then we won't know."

Neil Hamilton, the Lincolnshire chairman, was not as convinced. "Longer cricket does not necessarily mean better cricket and the ECB has been quiet, indeed silent, about funding our future."

The MCCA, founded in 1895, rejected last year a one-innings a match proposal that was tabled by Ian Cockbain, the Minor Counties and Cheshire captain, who said: "It would give batsmen time to build an innnings."

Bridge said: "Some say that one-innings, two-day games can be boring for players, as well as spectators. Sitting in a changing room watching a team-mate score a three-hour hundred will not appeal, but we must test it out." A further plan over the next two years, before the proposed introduction of a 38-county board that swallows up the MCCA and the first-class counties' second XI championship, involves an annual play-off between the winners of the existing competitions.

There are doubts. Dave Hoare, the Bedfordshire secretary, a member of the MCCA management committee, said: "We have a history of reservations about playing county second teams dating back 20 years. Some didn't want a game of cricket. They had just come to practise against us with an out-of-touch batsman from the first team intent on a double hundred."

Mark Fell, the Lincolnshire captain and former Nottinghamshire batsman, approves of the idea: "The gap is not wide between second XIs and minor counties, but playing against professionals would continue to raise our standards," he said.

Financial aspects are of concern to Eric Burston, the Wiltshire commercial manager, who said: "Who will pay to watch sides grinding through 120 overs? Our recent match against Devon was worth £1,000 in receipts and corporate hospitality. I could not imagine that being repeated."

Burston also has misgivings about the proposed, expanded NatWest Trophy format, involving 60 teams, with minor counties who reach the last 32 having automatic home advantage against first-class counties. "That part is fine," he said, "but selling commerical hospitality in only the fortnight before the third-round draw would be just about impossible. The present September for June draw means we have months to maximise income."

The last word belongs to Bridge, who served the MCCA on the now-defunct Test and County Cricket Board. "I am reasonably upbeat about the MacLaurin report from the minor counties' angle. We are all working towards the same goal of excellence."

Scotland's effort falls short

From Karl Johnston in Dublin

DUBLIN (final day of three): Ireland drew with Scotland

IRELAND'S annual three-day match against Scotland petered out to a draw at Malahide in Dublin yesterday but not before a certain amount of excitement had been generated.

Justin Benson declared Ireland's second innings closed at 192 for 5, setting the Scots a target of 274. Victory looked well wihin Scotland's reach despite the early loss of Douglas Lockhart and Mike Allingham, while Bruce Patterson and George Salmond put on 144 for the third wicket before Benson bowled Patterson.

Eventually, the Scots needed 116 off the final 20 overs, but wickets began to tumble, and when Salmond was run out, instantly followed by the dismissal of Craig Wright, Scotland batted out time.

IRELAND: First Innings 270 for 9 dec (K McCallan 65, J Davy 51 not out, K Sheridan 4 for 43)

Second Innings

D Curry c Patterson b Thomson	6
K McCallan c Sheridan b Stanger	47
J Davy b Thomson	2
E Joyce c Salmond b Williamson	43
A Patterson c Allingham b Dyer	12
*J D R Benson not out	61
J E Byrne not out	12
Extras (lb 2, nb 4, w 3)	9
Total (5 wkts)	192

G Cooke, †A Rutherford, G Molins and P McCrum to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-19, 3-78, 4-94, 5-158

BOWLING: Thomson 10-2-41-2; Wright 6-1-23-0; Sheridan 8-4-40-1; Williamson 12-3-40-1; Stanger 10-2-38-1; Dyer 5-0-29-1; Allingham 1-0-3-0

SCOTLAND: First Innings 189 for 3 dec (D Lockhart 77 not out)

Second Innings

B Patterson b Benson	83
D Lockhart c Joyce b Cooke	19
M Allingham run out	0
*G Salmond run out	89
G Williamson c Cooke b Benson	5
I Stanger run out	8
†A Davies c Patterson b Molins	10
C Wright lbw b McCallan	0
K Thomson not out	9
N Dyer not out	0
Extras (b 3, lb 7, nb 12, w 2)	24
Total (9 wkts)	247

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-44, 2-47, 3-191, 4-197, 5-221, 6-233, 7-233, 8-236, 9-247

BOWLING: McCrum 14-1-61-0; Davy 11-2-41-0; Cooke 9-4-32-1; Molins 17-2-55-2; Benson 5-0-38-2; McCallan 5-1-10-1

Umpires: P L O Hara and E Cooke

Sri Lanka survive Ganguly onslaught

By Our Sports Staff

SAURAV GANGULY scored a career-best 147 yesterday to give India a 43-run first-innings lead in the second and final Test against Sri Lanka in Colombo, but Sri Lanka had taken charge by the close on the third day, reaching 77 for one in their second innings to set up an intriguing contest.

Sri Lanka will start the fourth day with a lead of 34 runs, hoping to set India a fourth-innings target of around 350 on a wearing wicket at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground.

Ganguly scored 100 of the 149 runs that India added to their overnight score of 226 for four before being last man out at 375, half an hour after tea. His seven-hour stay kept India in the game after a lower-order collapse in which the last five wickets fell for 47 runs.

The 25-year-old left-hander hit 19 fours and two sixes to surpass his 136 against England at Trent Bridge last summer before holing out trying to force the pace. Muttiah Muralitharan, the off spinner, brought the innings to a close, taking three of the last five wickets. He was the leading wicket-taker with four for 99 from 48 overs.

The Sri Lanka openers, Sanath Jayasuriya and Marvan Atapattu, saw off the India seam bowlers in the final session with a stand of 65. However, Anil Kumble, the leg spinner, broke the partnership with a ball that turned sharply and found the edge of Atapattu's bat, carrying to Azharuddin in the slips. Jayasuriya and Roshan Mahanama were together when play ended early because of bad light.

SRI LANKA: First Innings 332 (P A de Silva 146; D Mohanty 4 for 78)

Second Innings

S T Jayasuriya not out	34
M S Atapattu c Azharuddin b Kumble	29
R S Mahanama not out	9
Extras (lb 1, w 1, nb 3)	5
Total (1 wkt)	77

FALL OF WICKET: 1-65

BOWLING: Mohanty 3.2-0-15-0; Prasad 4-0-18-0; Kuruvilla 8-3-23-0; Kumble 7-0-20-1

INDIA: First Innings

A D Jadeja c Kaluwitharana b Vaas	1
N S Sidhu st Kaluwitharana b Muralitharan	29
R S Dravid c Vaas b S C de Silva	2
*S R Tendulkar c Muralitharan b Pushpakumara	139
M Azharuddin c Mahanama b Vaas	22
S C Ganguly c Vaas b S C de Silva	147
†N R Mongia b Muralitharan	15
A Kumble c Jayawardana b Muralitharan	0
A P Kuruvilla c Jayawardana b Muralitharan	0
B K V Prasad c Kaluwitharana b S C de Silva	2
D Mohanty not out	0
Extras (b 2, lb 3, nb 13)	18
Total	375

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-9, 3-81, 4-126, 5-276, 6-328, 7-334, 8-342, 9-359

BOWLING: Vaas 27-5-89-2; Pushpakumara 19-3-79-1; S C de Silva 31.1-6-101-3; Muralitharan 48-17-99-4; Jayasuriya 10-6-15-0; Jayawardana 1-1-0-0; P A de Silva 5-2-7-0

Umpires: R Koertzen (South Africa) and B C Cooray (Sri Lanka)

TEST AVERAGES

England

Batting

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/s
G P Thorpe	5	9	2	364	138	52.00	1	2	6
N Hussain	5	9	0	394	207	43.77	1	0	6
M A Ealham	4	6	3	105	53*	35.00	0	1	3
J P Crawley	5	9	1	243	83	30.37	0	2	2
M A Butcher	4	8	0	236	87	29.50	0	2	7
M A Atherton	5	10	1	241	77	26.77	0	2	2
A J Stewart	5	10	1	229	87	25.44	0	1	19
A J Hollioake	1	2	0	47	45	23.50	0	0	2
B C Hollioake	1	2	0	30	28	15.00	0	0	1
D W Headley	3	6	2	39	22	9.75	0	0	1
R D B Croft	5	8	0	75	24	9.37	0	0	1
D E Malcolm	3	3	1	12	12	6.00	0	0	2
A R Caddick	4	6	0	33	17	5.50	0	0	0
A M Smith	1	2	1	4	4*	4.00	0	0	0
D Gough	4	6	0	17	10	2.83	0	0	0

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	Best	5w	10w
M A Ealham	58.4	11	191	8	23.87	0	0	3-60
A J Hollioake	19	2	55	2	27.50	0	0	2-31
D W Headley	121.2	20	444	16	27.75	0	0	4-72
D Gough	142	27	511	16	31.93	1	0	5-14
A R Caddick	148.5	21	516	16	32.25	1	0	5-50
B C Hollioake	15	2	83	2	41.50	0	0	1-26
D E Malcolm	79	17	255	5	51.00	0	0	3-10
R D B Croft	161.5	41	439	8	54.87	0	0	3-12

ALSO BOWLED: M A Butcher 2-0-14-0; A M Smith 23-2-89-0

Australia

Batting

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	100	50	Ct/s
M T G Elliott	5	8	0	540	199	67.50	2	2	2
R T Ponting	2	3	0	181	127	60.33	1	0	1
P R Reiffel	4	6	3	179	54*	59.66	0	1	1
S R Waugh	5	8	0	362	116	45.25	2	1	3
G S Blewett	5	8	0	315	125	39.37	1	2	7
M A Taylor	5	8	0	261	129	32.62	1	1	5
I A Healy	5	8	1	209	63	29.85	0	1	23/1
M E Waugh	5	8	0	189	68	23.62	0	2	6
G D McGrath	5	6	5	23	20*	23.00	0	0	2
S K Warne	5	8	0	155	53	19.37	0	1	2
J N Gillespie	4	7	2	57	28*	11.40	0	0	3
M G Bevan	3	5	0	43	24	8.60	0	0	1
M S Kasprowicz	2	2	0	17	17	8.50	0	0	1

Bowling

	O	M	R	W	Avge	Best	5w	10w
G D McGrath	211.5	58	592	29	20.41	1	0	8-38
J N Gillespie	91.4	20	332	16	20.75	1	0	7-37
S K Warne	194.1	52	488	20	24.40	1	0	6-48
P R Reiffel	112.1	28	293	11	26.63	1	0	5-49
M S Kasprowicz	66	12	218	6	36.33	0	0	4-11
M G Bevan	34.4	6	121	2	60.50	0	0	1-14

ALSO BOWLED: G S Blewett 3-0-17-0; S R Waugh 20-3-76-0

* denotes not out

RUGBY UNION

Clubs rush to sign up talents of Townsend

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

THE number of clubs in pursuit of Gregor Townsend, the Scotland and British Isles stand-off half, increased significantly yesterday when he met leading figures from Bath. Townsend, who has already been linked with Richmond and Cardiff, now seems more likely than ever to leave Northampton.

Whether he would do so for Bath remains a moot point, for all Bath's success over the last decade. Part of Townsend's problem at Northampton is the clash of interests with Paul Grayson, the England stand-off, over the occupancy of the No 10 shirt. That shirt has been worn at Bath with increasing authority of late by Mike Catt, while they are not short of midfield talent, either.

If he is to guarantee himself European competition in the coming season, Townsend must make up his mind by Friday, the deadline for players registering for the Heineken Cup and the European Conference. "It would be great to have Gregor as part of our squad," Clive Woodward, Bath's assistant coach, said, in the knowledge that at least one of his international backs, Jeremy Guscott, will not start the season until mid-September.

Guscott broke his forearm in the last match of the Lions' tour to South Africa and is one of seven capped players who will be unavailable for Bath's opening game in the Allied Dunbar Premiership on August 23, against Newcastle.

Bristol, who are now resigned to the loss of Martin Corry, their England flanker, to Leicester in the wake of the departure of Simon Shaw to Wasps and Mark Regan to Bath, have lost two further stalwarts: Ralph Knibbs, the veteran centre, is to coach Coventry and Mark Tainton, the stand-off and kicking specialist, is setting up his own sports consultancy.

HOCKEY

Scotland's final hopes are dashed

SCOTLAND'S hopes of reaching their first significant final were crushed when they went down 2-1 to the highly-rated South African team in the semi-finals of the World Cup qualifying tournament in Harare yesterday (a Special Correspondent writes).

Sue Fraser, playing in her 200th international, gave Scotland a glimmer of hope of sending the contest to extra time when she scored from a penalty corner two minutes from time to reduce the deficit, but South Africa held firm under sustained pressure to qualify for today's final.

After dominating the first half, the Springboks led 1-0 at the break through an eighth-minute goal by Kerry Bee, who steered the ball past Sue Lawrie, the goalkeeper, to end her run of clean sheets at 37 corners in the competition.

The find of the tournament, Pietie Coetzee, maintained her record of scoring in every match when she collected her thirteenth goal, beating Lawrie from the penalty spot in the 48th minute.

Karen Roberts, the South Africa captain, admitted the Scots had given her team a real fright in the closing stages. New Zealand qualified for the final with a 2-1 win over India.

This time the gloves are on.

The Semi-Final of the Natwest Trophy is no time for half measures. Not when the winners get a trip to Lord's and the losers need a trip to Lourdes.

NatWest
More than just a bank

British world champion a genuine contender again

Hill is back up the mountain

MICHAEL CALVIN

on proof that winners don't always take it all

Hill, left, and Villeneuve congratulate each other after finishing on top of the podium in Hungary on Sunday

Ayrton Senna would have been inconsolable and cloistered out of the public eye in a motorhome that had the ambience of a funeral parlour. Nigel Mansell would have wrenched the steering wheel from its mounting and headed for the nearest television camera to rage at fate. Even Michael Schumacher would have found his studied stoicism impossible to sustain.

Yet Damon Hill, denied due reward for the greatest drive of his career at the Hungaroring on Sunday, responded with the slightly distracted air of a man who had found a penny in the gutter after watching his last 50p piece roll down a drain. He was grateful for the small mercy of second place, philosophical beyond the point of credulity.

He ignored countless invitations to wallow in self-pity, restricting himself to the observation that "it's always nice being at the front. It makes you feel better about yourself, because you know you are being noticed. I'll go away and look back on this weekend and be satisfied with it".

We should have expected no less. Hill is that rarity in the egocentric world of Formula One, a man who refuses to be stifled by its introspective conventions. He defies the clichés of professional sport by proving that winning is not everything. Second is anywhere but nowhere. He has a world title to emphasise that nice guys are not necessarily doomed to finishing last.

His is not the manufactured popularity of a Frank Bruno. He does not arouse ephemeral infatuation, like a Tim Henman. The self-promotional absurdities of an Ian Wright or a Naseem Hamed are anathema to him. Unlike Colin Montgomerie and the mediocrities of the England cricket team, he can win when matters: in contrast to the British athletics squad, he does not seek excuses.

Frank Williams, his former employer, misjudged the prevailing mood after the Hungarian Grand Prix by reflecting that "we had a bit of luck but, never mind, that's motor racing". The sympathy aroused by the hydraulic problems that prevented Hill from winning testified to the respect that he has gained in adversity. It was led by Schumacher, amplified by Alain Prost and given Villeneuve's blessing.

They were, to use Schumacher's phrase, "frankly amazed" by the extent of Hill's achievement. In the longer term, the development programme overseen by the design guru, John Barnard, might produce a competitive car for Tom Walkinshaw's team, but, at the weekend, the sight of an Arrows-Yamaha at the front of the grid was as incongruous as a rust-streaked MOT failure on the forecourt of a Rolls-Royce dealership.

Memories are selective and acutely personal. My outstanding image of Hill's career before Sunday was not of his coronation as world champion at Suzuka last November, but of a masterly drive through torrential rain to win at the Japanese circuit two years previously. He summoned the courage and skill to drive through apparently impenetrable walls of spray and conquered his inner demons as efficiently as he dealt with Schumacher.

Last weekend's performance revealed different qualities. Hill used his experience of the Hungaroring — a narrow, claustrophobic track that demands unrelenting concentration — to the full. Once in front, he justified the pre-race assertion of Eddie Jordan, that only Schumacher can match the air of invincibility that Hill radiates when he is in the lead.

Jordan has been erroneously linked with Hill, but admits, with the wry smile of a street politician, that "anything is possible". The most likely scenario is that the world champion will be reunited with the designer, Adrian Newey, a close friend whose disaffection with Hill's dismissal from Williams was a contributory factor in his acrimonious move to McLaren.

Jordan admitted: "In a McLaren, with Newey and Mercedes, you'd have to say that Damon would have a realistic chance of the championship." This would please Bernie Ecclestone, the entrepreneur who is Formula One's defining figure. He reflected yesterday: "We need him [Hill] in a top team next season. I'm sure that will happen because he's one of the top three drivers in the world."

> 'He was grateful for second place, philosophical beyond credulity'

Even Walkinshaw, who insists that he has yet to open serious negotations with Hill concerning 1998, conceded that he "could certainly understand" if the Briton left Arrows at the completion of his one-year contract. Hill, with typical pragmatism, views such speculation as an unnecessary diversion. He is suspicious of instant judgments.

He is now in the South of France, at a summer holiday home with the young family that is the emotional bedrock of his life. "It's easy to get forgotten in motor racing," he acknowledged. "I'm back in fashion at the moment, but I'm just as pleased for the guys in the garage. Some of them have been in Formula One for years, but had never been near the podium before."

They, assuredly, were pleased for him. Popularity is an optional extra in Formula One, but it is nice to know that it still matters to some.

GOLF: HEAVY DEFEAT FOR GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND HIGHLIGHTS NEED FOR CHANGE

Walker Cup must seek European aid

John Hopkins, golf correspondent, believes the time is right for home countries to broaden horizons in contest with United States

THERE are two possible courses of action after Great Britain and Ireland's disastrous performance in the Walker Cup. The first is to analyse it to death, the second is to concede that it was a real drubbing and have done with it. The correct response probably lies somewhere in between. It was a drubbing and it was one of those days.

Those words sum up the 1997 Walker Cup match that ended in the 18-6 victory for the United States on Sunday evening. As it happens, though, they appeared in this newspaper in the aftermath of Great Britain and Ireland's 19-5 defeat in 1993.

What is going on? After winning only 11 out of 48 points in these Walker Cups, is amateur golf in Great Britain and Ireland in a slump? Of course not. Two Walker Cup matches have been won since 1987, compared with two in the previous 70 years.

Why, then, when it seems that Great Britain and Ireland are becoming more competitive, do the United States inflict such heavy defeats? The answer is that the gap remains wider than it appears. In short, though Great Britain and Ireland have improved, so too have the United States, sometimes by taking a leaf out of someone else's book. For example, this year, for the first time, the United States team met for a weekend practice two months before the match. Great Britain and Ireland began using a squad system and having regular practice sessions after the defeat in 1993.

Before the match this year, much was made of Great Britain and Ireland's two victories in the previous four and an indication that the Walker Cup had become a more even-handed contest. It has not. The United States enjoy huge numerical advantages as well as the benefits of an enormous competitive programme in colleges and universities. Their victories tend to be wide, their defeats narrow.

The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews deserves credit for the more professional approach it has brought to team preparation for this competition, yet, in the end, Great Britain and Ireland lost because too many players were either not as good as they appeared to be at home or played below expectations. Barclay Howard did not need to be told that he was the best example of the latter. He was as upset by his poor play as anyone.

The visiting players were outdriven and outputted. Whether they lost accuracy because they were striving for length or whether they were unable to hit the ball as straight as often, they could not keep the ball on the fairway as the Americans did. Thus they could not attack the greens with their second or third shots. This, in turn, meant that they were often chipping from thick greenside rough, of which they have little experience, or facing long putts.

They did not want to have to do either of these on lightning-fast greens. A more brutal assessment of the foregoing is this: the players were not good enough. What has to be decided now is whether or not the R & A and the United States Golf Association want this competition to continue as a meeting of like-minded English-speaking friends at which lifelong friendships are formed? If they do, then leave the competition as it is.

Downing Gray, the United States captain, was firm in his view. "I don't even want to consider having Europe involved," he said. "We have a legacy here that was started in 1922 and it's not just about who has the most points that this is all about. It's about international relationships, competition, friendships that will last for decades. We're not playing for money. We're playing for the love of the game."

Golf's two governing bodies are certainly delighted with the improved status that the Walker Cup enjoys. At most, it is contributing to the upsurge in interest in team golf created by the excitement of the Ryder, Curtis and Solheim cups. Such interest in the Walker Cup will wane if it remains so one-sided and with it will go its new exposure on television and its accompanying increased revenues.

It is time to include players from mainland Europe. No longer do Europe's best amateurs come solely from the four home countries. Spain are the European champions. To select a Walker Cup team from the entire continent and not just a part of it may alter the nature of the competition, but it will save it as an important golfing event.

WALKER CUP DETAILS

United States names first: First day. Foursomes: S Elder and J Kribel bt B Howard and S Young 4 and 3; J Courville and B Marucci bt J Rose and M Brooks 5 and 4; J Gore and J Harris bt G Wolstenholme and K Nolan 6 and 4; R Leen and C Wollmann bt R Coughlan and C Park 1 hole. Foursomes result: United States 4 Great Britain and Ireland 0. Singles: S Scott lost to C Watson 1 hole; D Delcher lost to Young 5 and 4; Elder bt Howard 5 and 4; Kribel lost to Rose 1 hole; Leen bt Nolan 3 and 2; Gore bt G Rankin 3 and 2; Wollmann halved with Coughlan; Harris bt Wolstenholme 1 hole. Singles result: United States 4½ Great Britain and Ireland 3½.

Second day. Foursomes: Courville and Marucci bt Howard and Rankin 5 and 4; Harris and Elder bt Young and Watson 3 and 2; Leen and Wollmann lost to Wolstenholme and Rose 2 and 1; Delcher and Scott bt Coughlan and Park 1 hole. Foursomes result: United States 3 Great Britain and Ireland 1. Second day singles: Harris bt Brooks 3 and 2; Kribel lost to Young 2 and 1; Courville bt Rose 3 and 2; Gore halved with Watson; Elder bt Nolan 2 and 1; Marucci bt Park 4 and 3; Delcher bt Wolstenholme 2 and 1; Scott bt Coughlan 2 and 1. Singles result: United States 6½ Great Britain and Ireland 1½. Match result: United States 18 Great Britain and Ireland 6.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 30

ALGOR
(b) Cold, especially that experienced in the onset of fever. From the Latin word *algēre*, to be cold. "For over colde doo douves dounge at eve/ Aboute her roote, algor away to dryve."

ARYANIZE
(c) To make characteristically Aryan. Made Aryan in language though not of Aryan race, as in the case with some East Indian tribes or peoples. "Thus all India... was thoroughly Aryanized."

ARSENIC
(b) Name of one of the chemical elements, and of some of its compounds, which are violent poisons. From the Greek *arsenikōn* yellow orpiment. That comes from the Greek for masculine, male or macho, an unkind early feminist reflection that men are poison. Chaucer: "Arsnek, sal armoniak, and brimstoon."

BIFFIN
(c) A baked apple, flattened in the form of a cake. It is named from the cooking apple cultivated especially in Norfolk. The name is a dialect pronunciation of beefings, for "beef" referring to the deep red colour of the apple. The spelling *beaufin* has been fabricated to give colour to a fictitious from the French *beau* beautiful + *fin* fine. "Beat his enormous head as flat as a biffin."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Rxh7+! Kxh7; 2. Qxg6+ Kh8; 3. O-O-O and the rook comes to the h-file with decisive consequences.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Back in the crime habit

Children cared for by Barnardos (BBC1)

Cadfael: The Rose Rent
ITV, 8.30pm

Sir Derek Jacobi dons the monk's habit to solve another brutal misdeed in medieval England. Although Jacobi's Cadfael may lack some of the roughness and disillusion of the Ellis Peters original, television continues to serve the novels well. Only a scholar of the 12th century can judge how authentic the period re-creation is, but it looks convincing on the screen and forms a satisfying backdrop to the unravelling of the puzzle. Christopher Russell, who also writes for *A Touch of Frost*, was responsible for this latest adaptation. In *The Rose Rent* Kitty Aldridge plays a rich young woman whose sudden widowhood has the men of the area lining up to marry her and secure her wealth. Murder follows. The pace is unhurried but never drags, and Cadfael's patient sleuthing is a delight.

In Cold Blood
BBC2, 9.00pm

It is television's turn to dramatise the senseless murder of the Kansas farming family which inspired the Truman Capote novel and a Hollywood film. Running to the standard mini-series length of three hours, spread over tonight and tomorrow, the story has plenty of time to develop. Indeed much of tonight's episode is taken up by sketching in the backgrounds and characters of the killers and their victims. Although they look much older than the 20-year-olds of real life, Anthony Edwards, from *ER*, and Eric Roberts give convincing substance to the criminals who set out to rob the wealthy rancher, Herb Clutter, and commit murder instead. The Clutter family, conventional God-fearing parents and their teenage children, are sketched with a similar attention to detail and the flat, empty Kansas landscape gives a solid feeling of place.

Indian Summer: The Forgotten Famine
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Here is another of those documentaries in a genre Channel 4 has made its own, the disinterment of an embarrassing episode from the past. During 1943 and 1944 three million people died of starvation in the province of Bengal. Mark Halliley's film argues that the famine was largely the fault of the British administration, which then tried to conceal it. Admittedly there was a war on. Japanese troops had swept through Burma and were poised to advance on India. But the British are charged with making a bad situation worse. Starving villagers converged on Calcutta, whose streets became littered with the bodies of the dead and dying. Only when Lord Wavell became Viceroy of India did things get better. But this was no thanks, the film claims, to Winston Churchill who disliked India and its people.

Barnardo's Children: Voyages of Discovery
BBC1, 9.30pm

The tears running down John Williams's face as he searched for the mother he had not seen for years was one of those pieces of intimate television that you never forget. His story was told in a previous series of *Barnardo's Children* two years ago. This new programme, one of two this week, recalls and updates Williams's quest and features others inspired by his example. The result is not only a raft of affecting personal stories, by no means all of them with a happy ending, but an insight into Barnardos itself. Founded in the Victorian era to provide a refuge for destitute children, it was run with strict military discipline and was better at supplying material needs than emotional ones. But its motives were of the highest and it has moved with the times, as Thursday's programme will show.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Shiva's Wedding
Radio 4, 10.00am (FM)

Midnight's Legacy. Radio 4's ambitious series marking the 50th anniverary of India's and Pakistan's independence, should carry a health warning: the brilliant colours its contributors employ could cause mind's eye dazzle, and the chanting, city noises and general hubbub the microphones pick up, could make sensitive eardrums thump. Ruchira Gupta, in the first of two programmes about India's deities, launches yet another audio-visual assault on us. Shiva, patron of the city of Varanasi, is one of India's top gods, and the spectacular festival commemorating his wedding is what Gupta describes this morning. Shiva sounds very special — no caste, easy to please, benign, and he can assume any form his worshippers desire.

BBC Proms 97
Radio 3, 7.00pm

Pierre Boulez's is the big name to conjure with tonight. He is conducting the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra in a Prom of 20th-century works including Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, Bartok's *Four Pieces for Orchestra* and Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin*. Predictably, Boulez includes one of his own brainchildren *Notations I-IV*, a reworking of four early pieces. This is not easy stuff for some Promgoers to cope with, even if they accept his advice: "Just listen with the vastness of the world in mind: you can't fail to get the message." In the interval, at 8.00pm, he and Brian Morton try reconstructing what would have been Boulez's one and only symphony, the manuscript of which he lost.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe's Breakfast Show **9.00** Mark Goodier **11.30** Radio 1 Roadshow. Live from Bournemouth **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jo Whiley **3.00** Kevin Greening **6.15** Newsbeat **6.30** Evening Session with Steve Lamacq **8.30** Digital Update **8.40** John Peel **10.30** Mary Anne Hobbs **1.00am** Claire Sturgess **4.00** Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Alex Lester **7.30** Sarah Kennedy **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Carl Davis Classics **8.00** Nigel Ogden **9.00** Jazz Score **9.30** An Indian Legacy **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Adrian Finighan

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **9.00** The Magazine **12.00** Midday News **2.00** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.35** The Tuesday match: Crystal Palace v Barnsley. Coverage of the game at Selhurst Park between the two newcomers to the Premiership **10.00** 5 Live at the Fringe. More highlights from the Festival Fringe in Edinburgh **11.00** News Extra **12.00** After Hours **2.00am** Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Anna Raeburn **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Mike Dickin

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. **6.00am** Newshour **6.30** Europe **7.15** World Today **7.30** India: A People Partitioned **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** What's News **8.45** The Lab **9.00** News in German **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Earth, Air, Fire And Water **9.30** Everywoman **10.00** Business **10.15** The Orchestra **10.30** Literature File **10.45** Sport **11.30** On Screen **12.30pm** India: A People Partitioned **1.00** News in German **1.05** Business **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Health Matters **2.00** Newshour **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack **4.05** Sport **4.15** Earth, Air, Fire And Water **4.30** News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.15** World Today **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sport **7.30** One Planet **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** Megamix **9.00** Newshour **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Meridian Live **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Megamix **1.30** Farming World **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Discovery **3.30** Meridian Live **4.05** Business **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe

CLASSIC FM

3.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Alan Mann **9.00** Henry Kelly **1.00pm** Listeners' Requests **2.00** Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Newsnight **7.30** Sonata **8.00** Concert. Handel (Concerto Grosso in D, Op 6 No 5); Pachelbel (Canon); Mozart (Violin Concerto No 5 in A major K219); Purcell (Birthday Ode, Come Ye Sons of Art Away); Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 1 in F major) **10.00** Michael Mappin **2.00am** Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Russ 'n' Jono **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Nick Abbot **4.00** Nicky Horne **6.00** Paul Coyle (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Richard Porter

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Handel (Concerto Grosso in A, Op 6 No 11); Stravinsky (Apollo, 1947 version), Glinka (Overture: Ruslan and Ludmila); Bach (Concerto in C minor for Oboe and Violin, BWV1060); Brahms (Hungarian Dances Nos 5 and 6); Schumann (Piano Quartet in E flat, Op 47)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Penny Gore. Includes Mozart (Serenade in D, K185); Schumann, orch Shostakovich (Violin Concerto in A minor)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Susan Sharpe. Includes Tchaikovsky (Polonaise, Eugene Onegin); Chopin (Ballade No 1 in G minor, Op 23); Haydn (Violin Concerto in C); Mozart (Adagio in E, K261); Berlioz (Nuits d'Eté)
12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Bartok
1.00pm News; Summer Ensemble. A recital by Leland Chen, violin, and John Lenehan, piano. Includes Beethoven (Violin Sonata in C minor, Op 30 No 2); Basch (Poème); Wieniawski (Variations on an Original Theme) (r)
2.00 BBC Proms 97. Another chance to hear last Friday's concert featuring Michelle de Young, mezzo, Krzysztof Smietana, violin, BBC Symphony Orchestra under Jiri Belohlavek. Bartok (Kossuth); Berio (Folk Songs); Schubert (Rondo in a, D438); Dvořák (Symphony No 8 in G) (r)
3.45 Andras Schiff. A piano recital. Includes Schumann (Davidsbündlertänze); Janacek (Piano Sonata IX 1905). Schumann (Symphonic Etudes, Op 13) (r)
5.00 Music Machine, with Tommy Pearson (r)
5.15 In Tune, with Linda Ormiston at the Edinburgh Festival. Includes Vivaldi (Serenata, La Sena Festeggiante). Schubert (Am Feierabend); Smetana (Dalibor, excerpt)
7.00 BBC Proms 97. See Choice. Live from the Albert Hall. Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra, under Pierre Boulez. Ravel (Le Tombeau de Couperin); Bartok (Four Pieces for Orchestra); Boulez (Notations 1-4) **8.00** Boulez's Lost Symphony. The composer-conductor talks about the work he lost in 1947, which he still regards as the summation of everything he knew up to that point. He describes his emotions and remembers how the work would have sounded **8.20** Concert, part two. Stravinsky (The Rite of Spring)
9.15 Hearts and Minds. Michael Rosen explores folk and fairy tales from the era of the Russian Revolution and examines the effect they had on the young people of the time (2/4) (r)
9.40 Damon. Excerpts from Telemann's opera performed by soloists and La Stagione Frankfurt, under Michael Schneider
10.00 BBC Proms 97. Live from the Albert Hall. Rolf Hind and Thomas Ades, pianos, Orchestra of St John's Smith Square, under John Lubbock. Harrison (New First Suite for Strings); Montague (Piano Concerto); Barber (Adagio for Strings); McPhee (Tabuh-Tabuhan)
11.30 Proms Composer of the Week: Brahms (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes. Jack Teagarden, Tommy Dorsey and Bill Harris feature in tonight's survey of trombone players by Campbell Burnap
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod. Includes **1.00** Sinfonia Varsovia, under Jerzy Maksymiuk. With Krzystof Szmyt, tenor, Maciej Grzybowski, piano. Szymanowski (Mandragora); Poulenc (Aubade); Hindemith (Hérodiade) **2.05** Traditional music from Poland **3.15** Stuttgart Trio. Dvořák (Piano Trio No 4 in E minor, Op 90, Dumky) **5.00** Sequence

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.45** Notes from a Small Island, by Bill Bryson. Abridged and read by Kerry Shale (1/4) (r) **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Call Robin Lustig. Telephone 0171-580 4444 with your questions for the guests of the day
10.00 News; Shiva's Wedding (FM). See Choice
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, with Wendy Austin
11.30 Medicine Now. Geoff Watts examines the latest developments in robotic surgery and asks whether most people would be happy to be operated on by a machine
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Clare Catford
12.25pm Wordly Wise. Panellists David Aaronovitch, Fi Glover, Jeremy Nicholas and Peter Serafinowicz explore the origins of words **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Sci Fi — Fiction Science not Science Fiction. The geneticist Steve Jones discusses Mark Twain's *Pudd'nhead Wilson*, a tale of twins seperated at birth, and the author's fascination with questions of inheritance
2.30 Just the Part. The tenor Philip Langridge talks to the *Times* opera critic, Rodney Milnes, about singing the title role of Britten's *Peter Grimes* (5/6)
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Deire Brehan
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Allen talks to Twyla Tharp at the Edinburgh Festival. Plus Paul Vaughan reviews a selection of successful easy listening releases
4.45 Short Story: A Visitor from Pakistan. Written by Ramlal. Read by Shaheen Khan
5.00 PM, with Charlie Lee-Potter and Chris Lowe **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Wonderland Girls. The last of a four-part comedy series written by Marianne Carey. With Fiona Bell, Wendy Seager and Tom Smith (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 After Partition. The actress and writer Meera Syal accompanies her father to Pakistan, the country he has not been back to for 14 years. During the partitioning of India and Pakistan, he was one of the thousands of Hindus who made the trip across the border
8.00 Science Now. Alun Lewis explores the latest developments in science (r)
8.30 In Living Colour. The last in the series which focuses on black and Asian perspectives on issues in the UK. With Trevor Phillips (6/6)
9.00 In Touch. Peter White with news and features for visually impaired people
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Midnight's Children, by Salman Rushdie. Read by Roshan Seth (2/15)
11.00 Mediumwave. A roundup of the media events (r)
11.30 A History of Britain in Six Menus. The fifth of six programmes in which Leslie Forbes travels through time in search of a good meal. This week's destination is a Victorian banquet (r)
12.00 News incl **12.27am** approx Weather
12.30am The Late Book: Biggest Elvis, by P.F. Kluge. Read by Ron Berglas (2/10)
12.48 Shipping Forecast
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

Stars moonlighting as humble presenters

REVIEW

Joe Joseph

To whoops and yells from *Newsnight's* new studio audience, Chris Evans squealed: "And on tonight's show we have Robin Cook — that's right, another ginger-haired guy, only he's got a weird beard, and earns a lot less money than I do. Robin bangs the drum for Britain all over the world. He'll be on in a minute, *isn't that right, Will? And later*, in our *Newsnight* 'Freak Or Unique' slot, we'll be showing you — are ready for this? — yes, we've actually found a Cabinet minister who believes that many poor working people in Britain have a tough time and should get a helping hand from the Government. Honest! We have!

"But over to our first guest: a big hand for Mister Robin Cook! Hi, Rob, or should I be calling you Secretary of State or something: I dunno, I dunno — whaddo I know? — I dunno, anyway, Rob, you've had a lot on your plate in your first 100 days in office Robin, but although that's meant that you've often had to work late, you haven't exactly been forgetting your toothbrush, have you Robin? Eh? Eh?"

Well, it wasn't quite like that last night. But maybe next year.

While the BBC and ITN have been struggling to quell criticism of their plans to inject more glamour into documentaries and news bulletins (the BBC thinks more viewers would watch serious programmes if they were fronted by Chris Evans or Ulrika Jonsson, while ITN is nurturing a stable of superstar reporters) their rivals are making the most of their head start. Last night's **In The Wild**, presented by Debra Winger (it was Holly Hunter last week), showed again how ITV is stealing a march when it comes to shoving film stars into the sort of shows that were once an Attenborough sanctuary.

But the trouble with watching Hollywood presenters is that not only do they want to bring their son, Noah, along, but they come with cinematic baggage. As you watched Winger journey through China in search of a giant panda, you kept expecting Richard Gere to emerge from the undergrowth in his white *Officer And A Gentleman* uniform and carry Winger off over his shoulder, while her anxious Chinese guides wondered why the sound of Joe Cocker singing *Up Where We Belong* was wailing through the Xin Ling mountains.

Explaining why she was so interested in safeguarding the future of the panda, Winger told us: "My son's name being Noah, I've always had sort of an attraction to the story of Noah." Presumably, if she had named him Sandy, we would be watching her chasing camels in the Gobi Desert. Next time we see David Attenborough presenting a natural history programme, I'll be waiting for him to tell us: "My brother's name being Dick, I've always . . ."

The trouble is that we didn't see Debra's panda until the last few minutes, but wary of leaving us panda-less, the producer kept inserting clips of unknown pandas sitting around like fat slobs who have just awoken after a night on the tiles and will be helping police with their inquiries just as soon as their hangover has worn off.

Professor Pan Wenshi, the world authority on pandas who was chaperoning Debra and Noah, seemed bemused — probably by how it could have escaped his notice that somebody else in the world seemed to be just as passionate about pandas as he was. At Foping National Nature Reserve they finally found a panda cub, which earned the professor a below-the-title screen credit: "When we started out," croaked Debra, weeping with emotion, "I doubted that pandas had a chance. Now I believe, with friends like Professor Pan, they just might."

Her work on Earth done, you expected Winger to take to her sick bed and die a ten-hanky death, as she did in *Terms Of Endearment*. But she and Noah wanted to leave their *mark* by giving the panda a name. Noah chose Faith. "It's a big name for a tiny cub," said Winger huskily. And Winger is a big name *for a tiny wildlife documentary.*

For a glimpse of how presenters used to be, **All Mod Cons** (BBC2) began with a 30-year-old clip of John Noakes, introducing *Blue Peter* viewers to the latest crazy thing in the Groovy Sixties. "And now for a mystery object," said John in that voice sceptics adopt when describing Carl Andre's *Bricks* as a work of art. "I wonder if you can guess what it is." It was a waist-high beanbag. "I had to be told . . . It's a piece of 'way out' furniture. It's a 'chair'!"

The baby-boom generation had reached an age in life when they *were rich enough and groovy* enough to move into their own "pad" and furnish it with beanbags and posters of Che Guevara; and flat-pack furniture from Terence Conran's new Habitat store, which could be assembled in anything between two hours and eight months, depending on the *quality of your drugs supply.*

Too bad that so many people gave away all their 1960s junk to men like Shaun Kent, **The Flying Scrapman** (Channel 4), before realising that in the 1990s their plywood slot-together tables and their chicken bricks would again be in vogue (in a knowing, ironic, *Post-Modern kind of way). But* Shaun's obsession is the *Kowloon Bridge*, which sank off the Irish coast in 1986 with a cargo of iron ore. Shaun bought it for £1 and thinks it will make him his fortune once he raises it.

Shaun, with his piercing blue eyes and his dentless determ*ination, tells his story well himself.* Sadly, Michael Clifford's film ends just as Shaun has finished decking out his salvage ship and is heading off to his wreck. But if there's a follow-up documentary, it will probably be presented by Reeves and Mortimer instead.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (59289)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (47367)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (5320096)

9.20 Ready, Steady, Cook (r) (T) (5301386)

9.50 Esther (r) (T) (6297473)

10.20 Put It to the Test (5264744)

10.45 Caron Cooper's Cooking with Confidence Fish (2238638)

11.00 News (T) and weather (2907589)

11.05 Due South (r) (T) (5888589)

11.50 Good Neighbours (6858763)

12.00 News (T) and weather (4892589)

12.05pm Wipeout (r) (T) ([illegible])

12.35 Neighbours (T) ([illegible])

1.00 News (T) and weather (40454)

1.30 Regional News ([illegible])

1.40 Columbo A death during a military academy training exercise is declared an accident (r) (T) ([illegible])

3.10 Quincy (r) (1640812)

4.00 Popeye (2125367) **4.10** Rugrats (4583818) **4.35** Pirates (6143788)

5.00 Newsround The launch of a campaign to end the cruel practice of India's dancing bears (2734909)

5.10 Byker Grove (r) (T) (3678522)

***5.35 Neighbours** (r) (T) (908003)*

6.00 News (T) and weather (831)

6.30 Regional News (183)

7.00 Holidays Out Includes Hever Castle, a high-speed lunch on Concorde, the River Thames, Irish B&Bs, Jersey and the Europa theme park in Germany (T) (7676)

7.30 EastEnders Time runs out for Sarah and Joe, while Annie has an invitation for Grant (T) (367)

8.00 Wildlife on One: Piranhas The majority of the 30 varieties of South American piranha don't deserve their species' evil reputation (T) (3096)

8.30 Keeping Up Appearances Hyacinth becomes concerned retirement isn't agreeing with Richard (r) (T) (5831)

9.00 News (T) *and weather* ([illegible])

9.30 Barnardo's Children: Voyages of Discovery Malcolm, Muriel and Roger confront the nagging question of how they came to be living under the care of Dr Barnardo and embark on the long and arduous journey into their past to trace their natural parents (1/2) (T) (970183) **WALES: 9.30** Answering Back (20015) **10.00** Barnardo's Children (224676) **10.50** Made in Wales (743541)

10.20 The X Files: F Emasculata Mulder joins a manhunt for two dangerous escaped convicts who are believed to be infected with a killer disease (r) (T) (318589)

11.05 You Decide with John Humphrys (159183)

11.55 Bump in the Night (1991) with Meredith FILM Baxter-Birney and Christopher Reeve. A psychological thriller about a woman tracking down her son's abductors. Directed by Karen Arthur (T) (353657). **WALES: 11.55** The X Files (597589). ***12.40** FILM: Bump in the Night* (2561684) **2.10** News

1.25am Weather (3538961)

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BBC2

6.00am O U: The Jews and Islam (8241283) **6.25** San Francesco, Rimini (3091580) **6.50** The Other Virtuosos (9392102)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (9142183)

7.30 Teletubbies (r) (4543305) **7.55** Bump (r) (8859928) **8.00** Noddy (r) (8413541) **8.10** Raccoons (r) (1630270) **8.35** Get Your Own Back (r) (T) (5704676) **9.05** Spiderman (r) (5397183) **9.30** Glad Rags (r) (37305) **10.00** Teletubbies (r) (7251218)

10.25 Cricket: NatWest Trophy Live coverage of the first semi-final in the 60-overs-a-side competition as Essex take on Glamorgan at Chelmsford. Essex will look to Australian Stuart Law and England's Nasser Hussain to help them to Lord's, while Glamorgan have a potential match winner in Pakistan's Waqar Younis (57729299)

12.45pm See Hear! (T) (269763)

1.15 A-Z of Food (r) (51472744)

1.25 Cricket: NatWest Trophy Further live coverage until the close of play from Chelmsford (57686560)

NB: Subsequent programmes are subject to change and late running

7.30 Home Ground: The Diary Derek Jacobi recounts the story of Lance Corporal Bill Smith, who died while working on the Burma-Siam railway as a prisoner of the Japanese during the Second World War (T) (909)

8.00 Call My Bluff Jilly Cooper, Terry Waite, Dermot Murnaghan and Colin Salmon join team captains *The Times* columnist Alan Coren and Sandi Toksvig (r) (T) (1638)

8.30 Ainsley's Barbecue Bible The flamboyant chef rounds off his barbecuing tour with a visit to Australia, the spiritual home of the barbie (T) (3473)

Roberts, Edwards and Neill (9.00pm)

9.00 In Cold Blood (1/2) Recreation of a brutal, meaningless slaying of a Kansas family. When a prisoner hears of a prosperous farmer *with a safe full of money he plans to rob it* on his release. However, there is no safe. With Anthony Edwards, Sam Neill and Eric Roberts. Concludes tomorrow (T) (3454)

10.28 Video Nation Shorts (146251)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (369473)

11.15 Cricket: NatWest Trophy Highlights of today's semi-final between Essex and Glamorgan (177589)

***12.10am Animated 2: Pearl's Diner** Lynn* Smith's cartoon about a typical American café (3965394)

12.30 Learning Zone: Open University: Writing a Report (99139) **1.00** *Engineering Mechanics* (92085) **2.00** Summer Nights: Sporting Chance Collections 2 (13936) **4.00** Languages. Espana Viva/Spanish Globo (24503)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (7774831)

***9.25 Win, Lose or Draw** (r) (T) (5395725)*

9.55 Judge Judy (T) (3256251)

10.20 News (T) (6058299)

10.25 Regional News (T) (6040270)

10.29 HTV Crimestoppers (6040270)

10.30 Between the Darkness and the Dawn FILM (1985) with Elizabeth Montgomery, James Naughton and Karen Grassle. A woman awakens from a twenty-year *coma to discover her high-school* sweetheart has married her sister. Directed by Peter Levin (51017473)

12.20pm Regional News (T) and weather (4661473)

12.30 News (T) and weather (1142560)

12.55 Shortland Street (1127251)

1.25 Home and Away (T) (14165812)

1.50 Liz Earle's Lifestyle (T) (98942096)

2.20 Murder, She Wrote Angela Lansbury as the amateur sleuth Jessica Fletcher (4475251)

3.20 News (T) (2558947)

***3.25 Regional News** (T) (2557218)*

3.30 The Riddlers (r) (1568201) **3.40** Ozzie the Owl (6646251) **3.50** Zot the Dog (6675763) **4.00** Scooby Doo and Scrappy Doo (r) (2143763) **4.10** The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat (r) (T) (2149947) **4.20** Captain Star (T) (4383611) **4.45** The Scoop (T) (6943580)

5.10 Highway to Heaven (2/2) (2680744)

5.40 News *(T) and weather (271299)*

6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (276116)

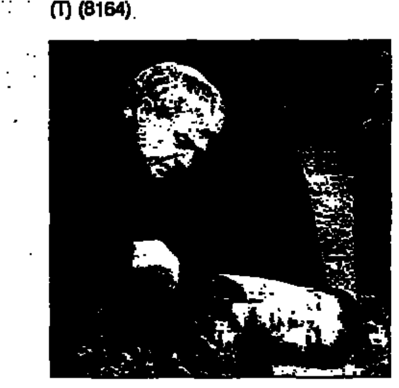
6.25 HTV Weather (924305)

6.30 The West Tonight (T) and weather (251)

***7.00 Emmerdale** A social worker has* shocking news for the Cairns household (T) (2744)

7.30 People and Pets Jenny Hull investigates the issues surrounding the quarantine laws (763)

8.00 The Bill George Garfield displays a lack of professionalism when he gets personally involved in an old man's death (T) (8164)



Jacobi examines the body (8.30pm)

8.30 Cadfael: The Rose Rent Derek Jacobi returns as the sleuthing monk in the first of three medieval mysteries (T) (35928)

***10.00 News** (T) and weather (64294)*

10.30 Regional News (T) (734893)

10.40 West Match Plus (834102)

11.40 Hunter A man facing trial for murder hires a hit woman to kill Hunter before he *can testify (r) (219299)*

12.25am Carnal Knowledge (r) (9622481)

1.25 Late and Loud (5310961)

2.30 The Chart Show (r) (8155987)

3.10 Football Extra (r) (8951139)

***4.05 Coach** (r) (34363435)*

4.35 The Time, the Place (r) (70337313)

5.00 Heirloom (r) (57226)

5.30 News (17023)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

10.30am Film: There Was a Little Boy (51017473)

12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (1127251)

2.20-3.20 Hart to Hart (8960251)

4.00-4.10 Scooby Doo and Scrappy Doo (2143763)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2680744)

6.25-7.00 Central News (938980)

7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (763)

10.40 Central Sports Special (834102)

11.40 Swift Justice (293251)

12.30am Film: Parker Kane (596874)

2.10 The Paul Ross Show (1893597)

3.40 The Loop (74108961)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

10.30 Film: There Was a Little Boy (51017473)

12.55pm Home and Away (8837522)

1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (10724096)

4.00-4.10 Scooby Doo and Scrappy Doo (2143763)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2680744)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (10638)

7.30-8.00 Stately Homes (763)

10.40 Film: Betsy's Wedding (1990). A comedy written by, starring and directed by Alan Alda (28558980)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: 10.30am Cartoon Time (2242299) **10.40 David the Gnome** (3759218) **11.05 Cartoon Time** (4628218) **11.25 BraveStarr** (4604638) **11.50 Dinosaurs** (9926744) **2.20pm-3.20 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman** (8960251) **4.00-4.10 Scooby Doo and Scrappy Doo** (2143763) **5.10-5.40 Home and Away** (2680744) **6.00 Meridian Tonight** (299) **6.30-7.00 Summer Festivals** (251) **7.30-8.00 Four Returns to India** (763) **10.40 The Meridian Match** (196454) **11.30 Prisoner: Cell Block H** (651378)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 10.30 Cartoon Time (2242299) **10.40 David the Gnome** (3759218) **11.05 Cartoon Time** (4628218) **11.25 BraveStarr** (4604638) **11.50 Dinosaurs** (9926744) **12.55-1.25 A Country Practice** (1127251) **2.20-3.20 Dr Quinn: Medicine Woman** (8960251) **4.00-4.10 Scooby Doo and Scrappy Doo** (2143763) **5.10-5.40 Shortland Street** (2680744) **6.25-7.00 Anglia News** (938980) **7.30-8.00 Heirloom** (763) **10.40 Midweek Kick-Off!** (2348831) **11.55 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Deadly Honeymoon** starring Victoria Tennant (184034)

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street 7.00 The Bigger Breakfast (92445928) **9.05 Saved by *the Bell: The New Class*** *(7136270)* **9.35 The Secret World of Alex Mack** (6291299) **10.05 Sister, Sister** (7226522) **10.35 The Crystal Maze** (3159218) **11.35 The Bigger Breakfast** (9928102) **12.05pm California Dreams** *(7300947)* ***12.30 Ricki Lake*** *(33589)* ***1.00 Slot*** **Meithrin** (66089270) **1.15 Pingu** (66084725) **1.30 Film: Torpedo Run** (19155386) **3.15 Machinations** (4047980) **3.30 Here's One I *Made Earlier*** *(657)* **4.00 Bewitched** (164) **4.30 *The Parish*** *(676)* **5.00 Blue Wilderness** (9562) **5.30 Countdown** (928) **6.00 Newyddion** (639725) **6.05 Heno** (171742) **6.35 Hollol Bananas** (908367) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (129183) **7.25 Y Glas** (699909) **8.00 Cantrif O Gan** *(9034)* **8.30 Newyddion** *(8541)* **9.00 Rasus** (7763) **10.00 Brookside** (675386) **10.35 Frasier** (234947) **11.05 NYPD Blue** (874980) **12.00 Northern Exposure** (42348)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (r) (42909)

7.00 The Bigger Breakfast *Incorporating* **9.05** Saved By the Bell: The New Class (r) (T) **9.35** The Secret World of Alex Mack **10.05** Sister, Sister (r) **10.35** The Crystal Maze (r) (T) **11.35** The Bigger Breakfast (47551611)

12.05pm California Dreams (r) (7300947) **12.30** My So-Called Life (r) (T) (9770034) **1.25** Counter Culture (51463096) **1.35** Machinations (r) (88028541)

1.50 The Horse's Mouth (1958) A comedy FILM written by and starring Alec Guinness, directed by Ronald Neame (27293611)

3.30 Here's One I Made Earlier Liver salad; chicken primavera and saffron rice; fruit kebabs with coconut toast (T) (657)

4.00 Bewitched (r) (T) (164) **4.30** Countdown (T) (9298657) **4.55** Ricki Lake (r) (T) (6808980) **5.30** Pet Rescue (r) (T) (928)

***6.00* Space Cadets** Lighthearted sci-fi quiz. With William Shatner, Bruce Dickinson, Angela Rippon and Ford Kiernan (T) (541)

6.30 Roseanne (r) (T) (893)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (620744)

7.50 Girls, Girls, Girls Being a young woman in the 1990s (828102)

8.00 Tool Stories George Herbert oversees Robert McDonagh's extra extension; Yvonne Allen putting the finishing touches to her conservatory and Craig Masson and Andrew McMinn fit a chandelier in their London townhouse (T) (9034)

8.30 Brookside The pressure of trying for a baby is getting to Max and Susannah. Cassie confesses all to Jackie while Jimmy implores Mick to keep his part in Gladys's death quiet (T) (8541)

Victims of the Bengal famine (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Indian Summer: The Forgotten Famine** A famine that claimed three million lives (T) (7763)

10.00 Breasts Twenty-two American females aged between six and 84 talk about the impact their breasts have on their lives (T) (7522)

11.00 Vic Reeves' Big Night Out (r) (9638)

***11.30 Gas** New comedy acts (T) (752589)*

12.05am Nightwatch Topical phone-in series (9632868)

1.05 Saturday Night and Sunday Morning FILM (1960, b/w) Albert Finney stars, as a factory worker with a complicated love life. With Rachel Roberts and Shirley Ann Field. Directed by Karel Reisz (T) (426597)

2.45 Ricki Lake (r) (T) (6964348)

3.30 Beloved Enemy (1936, b/w) with Brian FILM Aherne and Merle Oberon. Romance between an Irish insurgent leader and the daughter of a leading British civil servant. Directed by H.C. Potter (768936)

5.05 Modern American Poets (r) (T) (3782464) **5.40** Film and Video Showcase (6203752)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (7760980)

***7.30 Havakazoo** (6486270)* ***8.00** The Enid* Blyton Adventure Series (2819541)

8.30 WideWorld: Whose Health Dr Mark Porter explores our perception of health and illness (2818812)

9.00 Espresso (6434980) **10.00** Exclusive (r) (9960657) **10.30** Hot Property (r) (2838676)

11.00 Leeza (2065657) **11.50** Double Espresso *(33685386)* **12.00** *The Bold and the* Beautiful (T) (2829928) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (8214021)

1.00 5 News Update (T) (22575947) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (1776183) **2.00** 5's Company (3190638)

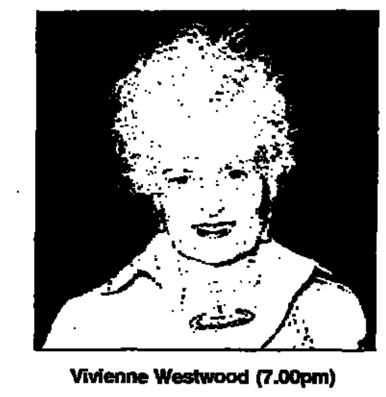
3.30 Mr and Mrs Smith (1941) With Carole FILM Lombard, Robert Montgomery and Gene Raymond. A screwball comedy from Alfred Hitchcock, about a couple who discover that their marriage is not really legal (7659639)

5.20 5's Company: Late Extra (60337367)

5.30 100 Per Cent (5155947)

6.00 Move on Up (T) (5145560)

6.30 Family Affairs Jack tries to get the truth out of Maria (T) (5136812)



Vivienne Westwood (7.00pm)

7.00 Exclusive Showbiz gossip. Includes interviews with designers Ben de Lisi and Vivienne Westwood (6856247)

7.30 Small Miracles: The Wandering Monarch A documentary about the long migration of the monarch butterfly (T) (5132096)

8.00 Plastic Fantastic An insight into male cosmetic surgery — a growing trend — and in particular, the rare pectoral *implants* (9517805)

8.30 5 News with Kirsty Young (T) (5301152)

9.00 Poltergeist: The Legacy Rachael's daughter is targeted by a malevolent spirit (T) (5005560)

9.50 Poltergeist: The Legacy Derek finds himself on trial for his life (T) (2140589)

10.45 Not the Jack Docherty Show Comedy and chat (5310947)

11.30 Prisoner: Cell Block H (3194454)

12.30am Live and Dangerous Includes, at 1.45, motor sport (45040690)

3.45 Live and Dangerous: Futbol Americas A round-up from Latin America (7408481)

4.35 The Streets of San Francisco (T) (8788042)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6422145)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, *see the Directory,* published on Saturday**

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (180015) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (42580) **10.00** Another World (91396) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (84812) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (87560) **1.00pm** Geraldo (43980) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (40980) **3.00** Jenny Jones (78744) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (55251) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (7831) **6.00** Real TV (7913) **6.30** Married — with Children (4473) **7.00** The Simpsons (8560) **7.30** M*A*S*H (9137) **8.00** Speed (4980) **8.30** Coppers (3015) **9.00** The World's Most Dangerous Animals 1 (95367) **10.00** The Extraordinary (98454) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (41855) **12.00** Late Show with David Letterman (91684) **1.00** Hit Mix (9534435)

SKY 2

7.00pm Superboy (3853793) **7.30** Superboy (5105980) **8.00** Renegade (8515251) **9.00** Police Rescue (8535015) **10.00** The New Untouchables (8538102) **11.00** In the Heat of the Night (8568541) **12.00** Hit Mix Long Play (8488874)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Shattered Vows (1984) (52034) **8.00 The Naked Runner** (1967) (64560) **10.00 Curse of the Viking Grave** (1991) (37291102) **11.45 Short Circuit II** (1988) (843454) **1.45pm The Best Little Girl in the World** (1981) (27099350) **3.30 Shattered Vows** (1984) (978184) **5.15 Imaginary Crimes** (1994) (80223831) **7.00 Short Circuit II** (1988) (41819) **9.00 The Care and Handling of Roses** (1996) (26089780) **10.45 Crooklyn** (1994) (51275270) **12.40am Midwest Obsession** (1995) (130232) **2.20 Joanna** (1968) (836771) **4.15 The Best Little Girl in the World** (1981) (911706)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am The New Adventures of Oliver Twist. U (50676) **8.00 Tension at Table Rock** (1965) (82102) **10.00 Dangerous Moonlight** (1941) (57183) **12.00 Three Ninjas Kick Back** (1994) (88314) **1.30pm Battle Cry** (1955) (240676) **4.00 Captive Island** (1995) (6855) **6.00 A Brother's Promise: The Dan Jansen Story** (1996) (20290) **7.30 Special Feature: Movie Trailers** (3867) **8.00 Crimson Tide** (1995) (72247) **10.00 Johnny Mnemonic** (1995) (574908) **11.40 Alien Nation: Dark Horizon** (1995) (981831) **1.15am Chiller** (1995) (219304) **2.55 Breach of Conduct** (1994) (525313) **4.30 Gulliver's Travels** (1983) (78139)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm You Were Never Lovelier (1942) (5136183) **8.00 Major League** (1989) (9149928) **10.00 Young Guns** (1988) (2024589) **11.50 Picnic at Hanging Rock** (1975) (2922367) **1.45am Return to Salem's Lot** (1987) (3418665) **3.25-5.25 Prince and the Pauper** (1978) (4308394)

TNT

8.00pm International Velvet (1978) (74758473) **11.00 Lolita** (1962) (24240367) **1.30am The Last Voyage** (1960) (41545329) **3.10-5.00 Mad Love** (1935) (81575329)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (34831) **7.30** Football League Review (20638) **8.00** Wild Sports (22522) **8.30** Racing News (21893) **9.00** Sports Centre *(45473)* **9.30** Aerobics (81763) **10.00** Watersports World (19522) **11.00** Golf (39386) **12.00** Aerobics (32909) **12.30pm** Football (23218) **2.00** Football League Review (3928) **2.30** Tennis (973928) **4.30** Sports Centre (1912831) **5.00** Wrestling (5015) **6.00** Sports Centre (5183) **6.30** Tartan Extra (9763) **7.00** US PGA 1996 (37367) **8.00** NatWest Trophy (40831) **10.00** Sports Centre (33638) **10.30** Footballers' Football Show (22928) **11.30** Tartan Extra (90909) **12.00** Sports Centre (90394) **12.30am** QPR v Wolves (54787) **2.00** Pro Beach Soccer (51313) **3.00** Footballers' Football Show (63787) **4.00-4.30** Sports Centre (24058)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Sports Unlimited (12903098) **1.00pm** World Motorsport (59622676) **3.00** Equestrianism (42861831) **4.30** Powerboat and Jetski (88973015) **5.00** Pro Beach Soccer (71382928) **6.00** Sports Unlimited (12992980) **7.00** Sports Centre ([illegible]) **7.30** QPR v Wolves — Live (38820987) **10.00-11.30** Equestrianism (78295084)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Tennis: Muster v Becker (51164) **9.00** Speedworld Magazine (99270) **11.00** Eurogoals (24454) **12.00** Touring Car — STW Cup (50305) **12.30pm** Wheelies Magazine (87947) **1.00** Water Skiing (28270) **1.30** Triathlon (74102) **2.30** Athletics: World Championships (43560) **4.30** Tractor Pulling Eurocup (20560) **5.30** Formula 4x4 (3196) **6.00** Monster Trucks (8021) **6.30** Freeride Magazine (4831) **7.00** British Touring Car Championship (55763) **8.00** Heavyweight Explosion (31183) **9.00** Darts: European Big Open (61947) **10.00** World Cup Legends (54034) **11.00** *Equestrianism: Nations Cup (45947)* ***12.00-12.30am*** Sailing (81690)

UK GOLD

7.00am Rentaghost (2799473) **7.35** Neighbours (3190831) **8.00** Crossroads *(3493164)* ***8.25*** *EastEnders* (7303015) **9.00** The Bill (3457251) **9.30** Shelley (5708744) **10.00** Tellystack (6183180) **10.30** Sullivans (3486763) **11.00** Ironside (16275560) **12.05pm** Crossroads (85812812) **12.30** Neighbours (5702560) **1.00** EastEnders *(8118893)* ***1.35*** *Pizza Patrol (81399218)* **2.05** A Little Bit of Dawson (45122367) **2.20** Take a Letter, Mister Jones (64245265) **2.50** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (5579454) **3.30** The Bill (3918980) **4.00** A Woman of Substance (4197560) **5.00** Casualty (19332763) **6.05** *EastEnders* (1588152) **6.40** Brush Strokes (5933102) **7.20** Dr Who (5242980) **7.50** George and Mildred (6528947) **8.20** Hi-De-Hi (4003589) **9.00** The Bill (4193744) **9.35** Casualty (33284589) **10.35** Morecambe and Wise (9310612) **11.35** The Magnificent Evans (9300473) **12.10am FILM:** One Good Turn (91768495) **1.40** Ken Dodd's World of Laughter (3197058) **2.25** Shopping (42400495)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (7265544) **7.00** Coronation St (1502676) **7.30** Families (1581183) **8.00** Surprise! Surprise! (6818251) **9.00** Richard and Judy Exclusives (7444015) **9.30** Doctor in Charge (5325270) **10.00** Gentle Touch (1587367) **11.00** Bust (1580831) **12.00** Coronation St (7424251) **12.30pm** Families (5336386) **1.00** Two's Company (1501947) **1.30** Classic Interiors (5335657) **2.00** Surprise! Surprise! (5231102) **3.00** Gentle Touch (1457386) **4.00** Richard and Judy Exclusive (5736831) **4.30** Doctor in Charge (5732015) **5.00** The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (7446831)

Anne Lambert disappears at Hanging Rock (Movies Gold, 11.50pm)

6.00 Families (5713980) **6.30** Coronation St (5737560) **7.00** The Saint (1582812) **9.00** Coronation St (1465305) **9.30** The Comedians (5316522) **10.00-11.00** The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (5060763)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo's Circus (14676) **6.30** Tall Tales and Legends (42367) **7.30** Little Mermaid (1302247) **7.55** Timon and Pumbaa (9233251) **8.10** Goof Troop (8448027) **9.00** Tale Spin (9634522) **9.25** Aladdin's Bazaar (6423164) **10.15** Quack Pack (3180909) **11.00** Boy Meets World (9738102) **11.25** The Wonder Years (6692034) **11.50** Timon and Pumbaa (8514812) **12.05pm** Bonkers (3776725) **12.30** Poddington Peas (52773251) **12.35** Big Garage (41954541) **12.50** Sing Me a Story (1978454) **1.15** Madison's Adventures Growing Up Wild (65899893) **1.40** *Adventures in Wonderland* (60193706) **2.05** Small Stories (46667980) **2.10** Lamb Chop's Play-Along (15992893) **2.40** Care Bears (6864473) **3.00** Little Mermaid (5272675) **3.25** Timon and Pumbaa (6495164) **3.40** Tale Spin Double Turn (6608681) **4.30** *Chodesday* (9134) **5.00** Aladdin (7050928) **5.25** Timon and Pumbaa (1853725) **5.55** Mighty Ducks (999183) **6.00** Flash Forward (1947) **6.30** Boy Meets World (2299) **7.00** Thunder Alley (6386) **7.30 FILM: Aladdin** (33676) **9.00** The Sinbad Show (39251) **9.30-10.00** The Golden Girls (21305)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Delfy and His Friends (7292831) **6.30** Pinocchio (1323356) **7.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (6557233) **7.30** Hero Turtles (8576328) **8.00** Casper (9333229) **8.30** Power Rangers Zeo (4384170) **9.00** Masked Rider (1099342) **9.30** Beetleborgs (5435638) **10.00** Spiderman (8565812) **11.00** X Men (2429912) **11.30** Phantom 2040 (2420541) **12.00** The Tick (6189706) **12.30pm** Life with Louie (5479454) **1.00** Casper (6555164) **1.30** Eek! (5438725) **2.00** Samurai Pizza Cats (4018247) **2.30** Hero Turtles (5124015) **3.00** Casper (9868544) **3.30** Power Rangers Zeo (5129560) **4.00** Masked Rider (5115367) **4.30** Beetleborgs (5104251) **5.00** Spiderman (1868724) **6.00** X Men (5125144) **6.30** Goosebumps (5116096)

TCC

6.00am [illegible] (87522) **6.30** Dangermouse (74611) **7.00** Dennis the Menace (46299) **7.30** Where's Wally? (58034) **8.00** Batman (84386) **8.30** Art Attack (47251) **9.30** Earthworm Jim (10299) **10.00** Gravedale High (99893) **10.30** Flash Gordon (63893) **11.00** Creepy Crawlers (62589) **11.30** Cadillacs and Dinosaurs (63218) **12.00** Gravedale High (87473) **12.30pm** Stunt Dawgs (14015) **1.00** Batman (38270) **1.30** Dangermouse (13386) **2.00** Creepy Crawlers (8744) **2.30** Flash Gordon (3164) **3.00** Sonic (7251) **3.30** Earthworm Jim (5909) **4.00** Dennis the Menace (7744) **4.30-5.00** Art Attack (3928)

CARTOON NETWORK

Non-stop cartoons from **5.00am** to **9.00pm** Includes Tom and Jerry, Popeye and The Flintstones

NICKELODEON

6.00am Dr Seuss (72676) **6.30** Will Quack Quack etc (69265) **7.00** Babar (32473) **7.30** Tales from the Cryptkeeper (11980) **8.00** Jumanji (20164) **8.30** Hey Arnold! (52763) **9.00** Rugrats (43015) **9.30** Rugrats (88305) **10.00** Doug (92367) **10.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (49299) **11.00** Rocko (17015) **11.30** Ren and Stimpy (18744) **12.00** Pete and Pete (23251) **12.30pm** Clarissa (50893) **1.00** Alex Mack (31744) **1.30** Round the Twist (59164) **2.00** Bailey Kipper (3270) **2.30** Littlest Pet Shop (2096) **3.00** Suckin' Around (2305) **3.30** Bruno the Kid (7541) **4.00** Hey Arnold (6876) **4.30** Rugrats (5560) **5.00** Sister Sister (4522) **5.30** Sister Sister (6812) **6.00** Moesha (3725) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (7305)

TROUBLE

12.00 Byker Grove *(3462183)* **12.30pm** Ready or Not (5704928) **1.00** Madison (1563015) **1.30** Sweet Valley High (5703299) **2.00** Swan's Crossing (8555675) **2.30** Blast (3938831) **3.00** Byker Grove (9000760) **3.30** Hangtime (3941676) **4.00** California Dreams (3920183) **4.30** Saved by the Bell (3926367) **5.00** Sweet Valley High (5791505) **5.30** Ready or Not (3940947) **6.00** Hangtime (3930560) **6.30** Madison (3921812) **7.00** Saved by the Bell (4955611) **7.30-8.00** California Dreams (3927096)

BRAVO

8.00pm The New Twilight Zone (4155819) **8.30** The New Twilight Zone (9905116) **9.00** LA Heat (9179676) **10.00** Tour of Duty *(9172763)* ***11.00 FILM: American Yakuza*** (8691928) **1.00am** LA Heat (1698139) **2.00** Tour of Duty ([illegible]) **3.00 FILM: On a Moonlit Night** (5352400) **5.00** The New *Twilight Zone* (6186232) **5.30** The New Twilight Zone (3898684)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Roseanne (4386) **7.30** Family Ties (3589) **8.00** E UK (3034) **8.30** Wings (2541) **9.00** Cheers (97251) **9.30** Dr Katz (70657) **10.00** Nurses (24980) **10.30** It's Garry *Shandling's Show (40928)* **11.00** Club Class (40116) **11.30** The A-List (81251) **12.00** Soap (96936) **12.30am** I Love Lucy (55787) **1.00** Cheers (11503) **1.30** Dr Katz (54752) **2.00** E UK (31348) **2.30** Club Class (47955) **3.00** Nurses (35139) **3.30-4.00** Wings (34435)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Space Precinct (5125980) **9.00 FILM: Flash Gordon** (19471015) **11.15 FILM: Curse of the Werewolf** (9561744) ***12.45am** The Making of Men in Black* (4822690) **1.00 FILM: Flash Gordon** (8179042) **3.00** Dark Shadows (1638665)

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Simply Painting (3455893) **9.30** *The Garden Show* (5705388) **10.00** Garden Club (2134562) **10.30** Craftwise (3484305) **11.00** Room for Improvement (4171522) **11.30** Graham Kerr (4172251) **12.00** Julia Child (3475657) **12.30pm** Hometime (5700102) **1.00** This Old House (1576589) **1.30** New Yankee Workshop (5709473) **2.00** The House (8650229) **2.30** This Old House (3942305) **3.00** This Old House (9105314) **3.30** This Old House (3914522)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm The Battle of Tsushima (3993657) **4.30** Air Ambulance (3922541) **5.00** Next Step (8450021) **5.30** Jurassica II (3913899) **6.00** Wild Guide (3943034) **6.30** Wildfilm (3934386) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (4050265) **7.30** History's Turning Points (3923270) **8.00** Discover Magazine (9162386) **9.00** Solar Empire (9142522) **10.00** Hitler-Stalin Dangerous Liaisons (9152909) **11.00** Best of British (1553638) **12.00** Secret Weapons (3073329) **12.30am** Air Ambulance (9304145) **1.00** History's Turning Points (1409329) **1.30-2.00** Next Step (8571110)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Vimy: Birth of a Nation (9512831) **5.00** The Life and Times of Jesus (4504812) ***6.00*** *Ancient Mysteries* (7865305) **7.00-8.00** Biography: Mark Twain — His Amazing Adventure (5149560)

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5.05pm** Cross Wits (2844589)* ***5.50 Family Fortunes (907102) **6.30** Catchphrase (897812) **7.05** Winner Takes All (964218) **7.40** Give Us A Clue (735893) **8.20** All Clued Up (800831) **9.00** Through the Keyhole (158676) **9.35** Sale of the Century (449855) **10.10** Treasure Hunt (500473) **11.20** Studs (656283) **12.00** Through the Keyhole (36110) **12.30am** Hart to Hart (53042) **1.30** Sweet Justice (12752) **2.30** African Skies (69145) **3.00** My Two Dads (66023) **3.30** Big Brother Jake (87597) **4.00** Fall Guy (36145) **5.00** Shopping (66771)

UK LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living (38967473) **9.05** A Woman Called Smith (9344657) **9.15** Gordon Elliott (1137909) **10.05** Jerry Springer (9309454) **11.00** Young and Restless (4010657) **11.50** *Brookside (9680812)* **12.25pm** Take a Letter (78043812) **12.55** Tempest (8255676) **1.40** Rolonda (8548909) **2.30** The Heat Is On (2066560) **3.00** Could It be a Miracle? (3489218) **3.45** Date with Fate (12466893) **4.05** Jerry Springer *(6513305)* ***5.05** Lingo (45241657)* **5.30** Lucky Ladders (2077676) **6.00** I Dream of Jeannie (8453893) **6.35** Ready, Steady, Cook (7961164) **7.05** Hearts Afire (3559034) **7.35** Could It be a Miracle? (3667580) **8.10** Rolonda (3206096) **9.00 FILM: *Cradle of Conspiracy*** (9138541) **11.00** Sex Life Down Under (1087096)

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** ZEE Presents **8.00** Raahat **8.25** Ek Nazar **8.30** Business **9.00** Revathi **9.30** Endrum Cinema **10.00** Fal a Fal **10.30** Awaaz Nayi Andaz Wohi **11.00** Khoobsurat **11.30** Mr Yogi **12.00** Sailaab **12.30pm** Raahat **1.00** FILM **4.00** ZEE Zone **4.05** Mr Mintoo **4.35** Mast Mast Hai Zindagi **5.00** Zone Timo **5.25** Naya A-Z **6.00** Bhangra Bonanza **6.25** Ek Nazar **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Aap Ki Farmaish **7.30** Chalo Cinema **8.00** News and Euronews **8.35** Darbar **9.05** Ikka Pe Ikka **9.30** Tara **10.15** Ghumta Aana **11.00** Sa Re Ga Ma **11.20-12.00** Hi Zindagi Bye Zindagi

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TUESDAY AUGUST 12 1997

England captain told to carry on

Atherton takes charge of his own destiny

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

DESPITE the doom and disproportion inevitably spawned by another Ashes defeat, the England management intends to stand firm against the clamour for panic measures. Michael Atherton will be offered the chance to fulfil his own forecast agenda by winning in the West Indies this winter, probably with Adam Hollioake as his deputy and captain-elect.

The onus is therefore on Atherton himself to balance his enthusiasm for one more leadership challenge against the argument that, after a four-year cycle in the job, this is a natural time to stand down. Atherton, never one to rush into such decisions, will seek the counsel of friends and mentors in the coming days.

His spirits will not have been lifted yesterday, when some of the reaction to England's defeat in the fifth Test at Trent Bridge was hysterical and personal. Nobody could enjoy seeing himself called a "dead duck" or accused, in the most preposterous of headlines, of "impersonating an England cricket captain", especially when Atherton's principal "sin" is to be in charge of a team outplayed by awesome opponents.

There have been times when Atherton's captaincy has been cautious, obtuse and even misguided, though these have become far less frequent as he has grown into the job. He is, after all, not yet 30, an age when Allan Border still did not know what it was to lead a powerful team.

Atherton has suffered, primarily, for being expected to win games consistently without a world-class bowler, a feat forever beyond the most gifted of captains. Yet, in that most ghastly of British traits, he has been portrayed as infallible one month and impossible the next.

A decent, intelligent but essentially ordinary man, it would be small wonder if he now felt inclined to turn his back on it all, but experience, allied to his obstinate nature, has helped to develop a thick skin and a tendency for defiance. If he resigns, it will be because he has had enough of an onerous, consuming and invariably thankless position, not due to those who rant that he must.

The lowest ebb for Atherton came not on Sunday, but a fortnight earlier in Leeds, where realistic prospects of winning the Ashes were relinquished. Atherton, often more eloquent in defeat than victory, wore a forlorn look that day and felt depressed for some days afterwards.

Within that time, he spoke regularly with David Lloyd, the England coach, and received ample reassurance regarding the management view of his situation. After a further conversation with Bob Bennett, chairman of both the England management committee and his county, Lancashire, Atherton was in no doubt that he should continue in charge.

He relished various aspects of the Nottingham Test, in which England played to their potential for all but the last day. Sadly, it will be the massacre that Sunday became that will be remembered.

Atherton is wise enough to expect no respite from scorn and speculation, as he intimated when he spoke on Sunday evening about the "black and white" that dominates popular perceptions of our sporting teams. Equally, he was offering no hints on his long-term intentions. Even David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, confesses that he is awaiting enlightenment.

"I have spoken to Michael regularly, of course, and he is well aware of my views," Graveney said yesterday. "I want him to go on doing the job and I think it is in the interests of the team for him to remain as captain this winter.

"It is true that he was low after Headingley. I was just as bad myself. I think we both felt it more keenly because of the expectations that had been raised by winning the first Test and the speed with which they were dashed.

"Trent Bridge just confirmed what will happen to most teams in the world playing these Australians on a flat pitch. They make things happen so quickly that games can run away from you. The hour on Sunday morning in which Ian Healy took on our bowlers broke everyone's hearts. I think, and our batting after that was unacceptable, too many players indicating they couldn't stand the heat in the kitchen. But, until that point, we had shown a lot of character."

As Graveney is acutely aware, Atherton's resignation would create a dilemma. There are three viable contenders to replace him, but none are demonstrably right for the moment. Alec Stewart would be a negative, short-term measure sure to send out the wrong signals; Nasser Hussain is a shrewd tactician, but a deep and complex personality; and Hollioake has just played his first Test.

As Stewart's role is already sufficiently confused and Hussain's place is not yet automatic, the progressive candidate is Hollioake, who proved at Trent Bridge not only that he has the temperament and technique to be a Test batsman, but that his bowling may not be quite as negligible as it promised.

Atherton: widely respected

Hollioake has been struck by the Australians' respect for his captain. "I had a long chat with Steve Waugh when we all went into the Australian dressing-room after the game," he said, "and he was saying just how much the Australians respect Atherton. Waugh said: 'They say he's like a cockroach you can't kill. You stamp on him but he keeps coming back'."

If Atherton stands down in the coming days or weeks, the job would be vacant too soon to be ideal for Hollioake. Better by far to allow him to learn as vice-captain on a tour.

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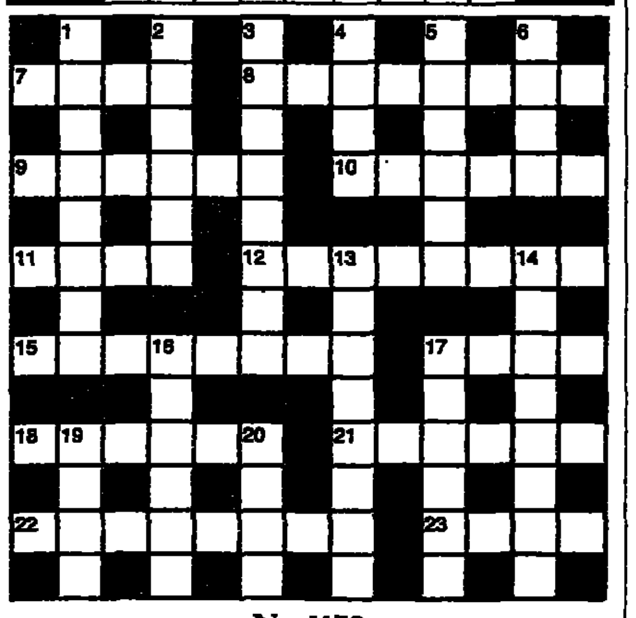
Cronje reappointed

HANSIE CRONJE will captain South Africa on their five-Test tour of England next summer. Cronje has been re-appointed for the 1997-98 season, the United Cricket Board of South Africa confirmed yesterday.

He will be in charge for a hectic period, taking in 16 Test matches, with home and away series against Pakistan, a tour of Australia, a home series against Sri Lanka and then the trip to England, their second since being readmitted to international cricket.

Gary Kirsten, the Western Province opening batsman, will be Cronje's vice-captain throughout the season, the board said.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1170

ACROSS
7 Year of 18 21's 9 (4)
8 Ruffian (8)
9 Unlawful killing (6)
10 OT prophet: — Beckett (6)
11 Fruit of the vine (4)
12 Greed (8)
15 Glass holder for 11 (8)
17 Commit to ground (4)
18 Doubting apostle (6)
21 Henry II's martyr archbishop (6)
22 Of the fall (8)
23 Look lasciviously (4)

DOWN
1 Statuette (8)
2 Draw absent-mindedly (6)
3 Time-saving route (5,3)
4 Chief: knob on vault (4)
5 Darkened (6)
6 Small restaurant (4)
13 Cone/plane intersection curve (8)
14 Ivan —, *Fathers and Sons* author (8)
16 Body protection (6)
17 Crumple: clasp (6)
19 Part of day: special time (4)
20 Decline: kitchen fixture (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1169
ACROSS: 1 Kindred 5 Gong 9 Wagon 10 Gnocchi 11 Half measures 12 Buddha 13 Stocky 16 Incomparable 19 Trawler 20 Ninth 21 Ramp 22 Toddler
DOWN: 1 Kiwi 2 Niggard 3 Run-of-the-mill 4 Degree 6 Oscar 7 Gainsay 8 House-trained 12 Blister 14 Colonel 15 Garret 17 Chasm 18 Char

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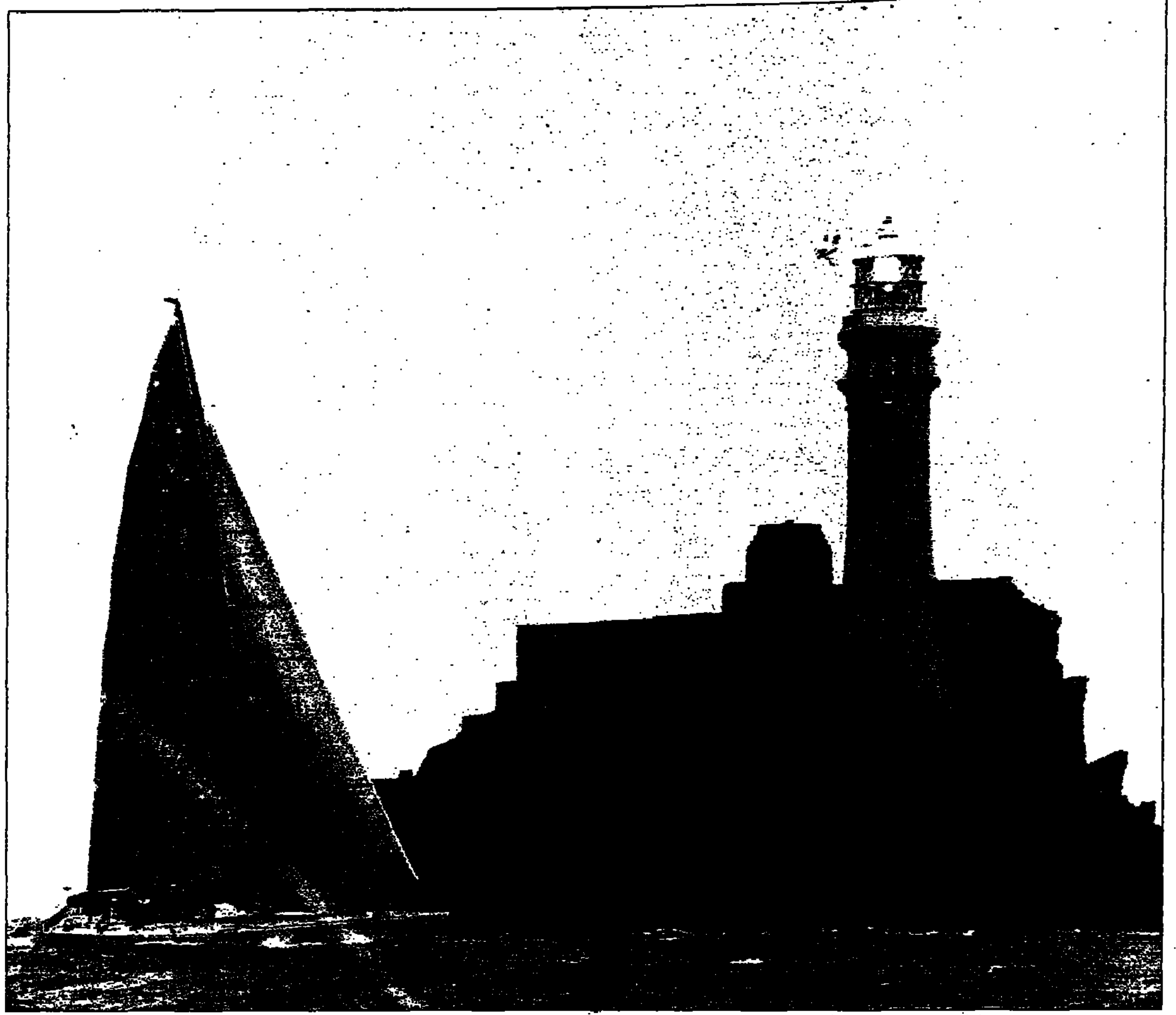

MIKE BROWN

Turning point: *Banque Internationale à Luxembourg*, skippered by Ross Field of New Zealand, leads the monohull fleet around the Fastnet Rock at the mid-point of the 605-mile Fastnet Race yesterday. Italy led overall, with Britain in fourth place. Report, page 38

United add Berg to defensive mix

BY DAVID MADDOCK

BY AGREEING to pay a fee of £5 million for Henning Berg, Manchester United yesterday illustrated not only the inflated nature of the domestic transfer market, but also the astute nature of Alex Ferguson, their manager.

Even in equalling the British record for a defender that Chelsea paid to Blackburn Rovers for the services of Graeme Le Saux only last week, Ferguson has pulled off something of a coup. Berg, 28, the Norway international defender, who cost Rovers just £400,000 from Lillestrøm in Jasnuary 1993, was described recently by Kenny Dalglish, the former Rovers manager, as the most consistent centre half operating in the FA Carling Premiership.

Ferguson highlighted defence as the area most in need of strengthening if his side was ever to mount a concerted effort to win the European Cup. It was the heroic effort of Jürgen Kohler, the Borussia Dortmund central defender, that denied United a berth in last season's final and put into perspective the Manchester club's own failings.

Ferguson was offered Kohler during the summer, but the player's age counted against him. Similarly, attempts to sign Markus Babbel, another Germany international, and Celio Silva, of Brazil, were doomed to failure.

Many will raise eyebrows at the size of the fee, but the United manager was candid in his assessement of the price. "It is a lot of money, but the money is not an issue," he said. "He is a quality international who is proven in the Premiership and he has the versatility and mobility we have been searching for. It is a great signing for us."

Similarly, Martin Edwards, the club chairman, was dismissive of the fee. "It is a price we have to pay. We wanted the player and we went out to get him. We did our business quietly and efficiently," he said.

In Berg, United have a Continental defender already with 159 Premiership appearances under his belt and 44 international caps. They also have secured a solid centre half who can play at full back and is comfortable on the ball. However, it is not the signing of such an accomplished player that is Ferguson's greatest achievement, but the fact that he persuaded Rovers to sell to United at all.

Bad blood has existed between the clubs for some time, culminating in a famous statement by Robert Coar, the Blackburn chairman, suggesting that Rovers' players would be sold to United over his dead body. Thus Alan Shearer was denied his wish to move to Old Trafford and instead had to settle for Newcastle United.

After signing yesterday, Berg admitted his relief at finally joining United. "Blackburn are a big club, but United are a great one, possibly the biggest in Europe, and it is a chance any player must jump at," he said.

"Everyone knows there is a problem with the two clubs. Alan Shearer wanted to come here and Blackburn simply wouldn't let him. When United first made an approach for me over a year ago, I said I wanted to go and I repeated that during the summer, but I never expressed that beyond the chairman and Mr Walker [the owner] and, when Blackburn signed a replacement, I think they appreciated I hadn't gone public and let me have my move."

Ferguson explained that the transfer was a triumph for perseverence. "He originally trained with United as a kid ten years ago, but we couldn't get a work permit," he said. "We were worried that we wouldn't get him this time and that's why we went for others, but it turned out all right in the end."

If Berg is happy at being allowed a move, then John Barnes, the former Liverpool captain, is less so. He was granted a free transfer by Liverpool yesterday after ten years' service at the club.

Barnes has been pushed out by the arrival at Anfield of three new midfield players and realised his fate on Saturday when Danny Murphy, 19, was preferred as a substitute.

"I do feel some sadness, but I'm not bitter," he said. "I happen to believe that the manager is wrong because I still think I should be in the team, but then all players think they should be playing."

Barnes, 33, has already been approached by Watford, his former club, with an offer to join as a player-coach, but he prefers to stay in the Premiership. He will talk to Harry Redknapp, the West Ham United manager, within the next 48 hours and is ready to move to London. Aston Villa, though, made an inquiry during the summer and could return, given the lack of a fee.

Berg: accomplished

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Celtic await their chance

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

CELTIC made the worst start possible in the build-up to their Uefa Cup second qualifying round, first-leg tie against FC Tirol Innsbruck tonight when they endured a five-hour delay before their plane was able to take off.

Celtic kick-started their campaign with an 8-0 aggregate thrashing of Inter Cable-Tel, of Cardiff, but Wim Jansen, the head coach, realises that the Austrian team will prove to be a more difficult proposition.

Jansen pointed to the way that Celtic have performed since their defeat against Hibernian at Easter Road in their opening league match as evidence of a recent improvement. However, he believes a positive result is needed in Austria if Celtic are to be in with a chance in the return at Celtic Park.

"This is the toughest game we have played so far," he said. "I just want to continue the way of playing we showed in the 1-0 friendly win against AS Roma and Saturday's 7-0 beating of Berwick in the Coca-Cola Cup.

"We are developing a settled team now, with only Regi Blinker missing because he has sadly not met the European deadline. I don't know if it is better to be playing the first leg away. There is always an emphasis on playing well, but if we can get a result ahead of the home leg, that could work for us. We must be ready to change tactics as the match dictates."

Jansen's only injury worry concerns Stephane Mahe, the France defender, whose ankle will undergo a late test before the starting line-up is finalised. "Stephane is the only player who has not reported fully fit and will clearly need a late run," Jansen said.

Jock Brown, the Celtic general manager, was at Glasgow airport yesterday morning, but confirmed that he was staying home as duty called elsewhere. "I want to do a few deals, though it is not out of the question I could be heading off somewhere on a plane myself soon.

"There are several on-going situations regarding new recruits and I'm hopeful of securing at least one player before Friday's European deadline. I am not expecting to announce anything before Wednesday, though, with everyone being away, but I'm confident progress will be made."

Davie Bowman, the Dundee United midfield player, knows exactly what is required his team faces Trabzonspor in their Uefa Cup match tonight. Tommy McLean, the United manager, is expecting an intimidating and hostile atmosphere in Turkey and Bowman, 33, said: "We must concentrate on the job in hand. Our aim is to keep things tight during the first 25 minutes. If we can do that, it might be like facing Celtic or Rangers in that their fans could turn against them."

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